# IROQUOIS INDIANS:

## A Documentary History

## of the Diplomacy of the Six Nations

## and Their League

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# INTRODUCTION

This compilation is like none other in the world. It is an archive of documents made by and concerning a people without scribes, documents recorded by other parties and originally filed away obscurely in repositories devoted to other interests. Because the League of the Iroquois and its constituent Six Nations negotiated diplomatically with the agents of empires, provinces, and nation-states, as well as with other Indian nations, Iroquois treaty documents came to rest in The Netherlands, France, Great Britain, Canada, and the United States, and in many state and private collections, in all of which the Iroquois documents were secondary to the thousand and one concerns of Europeans and Euro-Americans. Now these many scattered collections have been culled to create the first authentic archive of an indigenous tribal people.

Strictly speaking, an archive consists of the documents generated by an agency or institution, but we may think in terms of an imaginary Iroquois foreign office whose papers were destroyed in an imaginary fire, being preserved only in the copies made for other parties to negotiations. With that fiction in mind, what we have here is a reconstituted archive. Regardless of problems of definition, it is a body of texts exceedingly important to genuinely reconstituting the history of the United States and its predecessor colonies and native peoples.

The Iroquois League was a great military and political power in North America during the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries. Its importance was recognized by contemporary statesmen of competing European empires and colonies, who vied with each other to secure Iroquois friendship and alliance. After 1700, the Iroquois policy of neutrality maintained a balance of power between the empires that lasted until the Seven Years War, and the Iroquois nations were wooed by Britain and the United States during the War of the American Revolution. It is not possible to write a valid political history of eastern North America during the era preceding

the Revolution without carefully considering Iroquois participation in the most important events of the time; and the basis of the Northwest Ordinances of 1784-87 was the treaty made at Fort Stanwix between the United States and the Iroquois in 1784.

Though the Iroquois League fragmented during the American Revolution and its people are now scattered on Canadian and American reservations, and individually as far as Hawaii, their history after the Revolution became inextricably part of the history of the Great Lakes region and of the vast intersocietal trade that moved westward across the continent. Defying dogmas of the vanishing Indian, more Iroquois are now alive than were previously recorded at any one time.

The major problem in studying Iroquois participation in North American history has been the scattered and unreliable condition of the source materials. A large number were virtually inaccessible. Most have never been validated by critical examination for omissions, variance between copies, or other contradiction by other contemporary documents. In national and state archives, Iroquois treaties are submerged in the general material, their arrangement and cataloging ill-suited to the study of indigenous peoples; and indexes are at best inadequate, often erroneous and misleading. There is continuing attrition of source manuscripts, identifiable by later references to documents that no longer can be found.

Now, however, most of the problems of access have been solved by the archive presented herein; and comparison of documents has been facilitated. The documents included were compiled by a project begun in September 1978 at the D'Arcy McNickle Center for the History of the American Indian at the Newberry Library. Funded for three years by the Research Division of the National Endowment for the Humanities, and staffed by a historian and three anthropologists with the assistance of many temporary aides, the project initially aimed at compiling less than 3,000 texts, but even the specialists had badly underestimated Iroquois diplomatic activity and

its involvements. The documents piled up to three times the original estimate, and the project's actual duration extended past its formal closing for three more years. It has been completed nevertheless, largely owing to the dedicated support of the Newberry Library and donation of labor by the staff. Many generous contributions by individuals and institutions are acknowledged below.

Project staff made no effort to collect original source documents. Instead, it copied them by microphotography or xerography and made paper copies of all documents to be filed in an archive at the Newberry. This publication reproduces that archive. It is open to addition as new documents come to light, and students are solicited to send information about such new documents to the Newberry. The archive's calendar is available on a computer printout at the Newberry, and a card index of names and subjects refers to about one-sixth of the documents on file. Access may be had by qualified students. An indexed document is noted as such by a degree sign after the date of the document on the headnote to the document and in the calendar. Regrettably the index could not be completed because of lack of funds, but it is useful in combination with the calendar. Both are printed in the guide that accompanies this film. A reader may wish to scan the calendar for context before concentrating on particular documents. Calendar and index, especially when used together, are finding aids for the location of particular documents and sets of related documents.

## ABOUT THE TEXTS

### What They Are

The documents presented here include the minutes of treaty conferences, the agreements resulting from formal meetings, and a broad range of background materials useful for interpreting motives, procedures, and effects. The editors' basic standard for selection was relevance to the diplomatic history of Iroquois nations or their league. Other parties involved in the negotiations are also included.

Most of the documents are manuscript or printed texts arranged in chronological order. Often it has been possible to compile copies of the same text from different sources, and sometimes these are variant, sometimes significantly so. All copies are included. Texts in languages other than English are presented but only rarely translated.

Photographs of wampum belts are also included as representing Indian records of negotiations. In almost all instances, it has not been possible to identify a particular belt with a specific written record, and the editors have concluded regretfully that the belts cannot be deciphered by a general code. Nevertheless certain conventional patterns have been observed, so the belts are grouped according to emblematic content, following the last written text at the end of the microfilm publication.

The documents span a period from the earliest surviving sixteenth century texts through the year 1842.

### How They Were Copied

The editors depended on many archives and repositories for exact xerographic copies of original documents in their possession. Their valuable cooperation was unstinted, but the variety of their facilities for copying prevented the adoption of a uniform reduction ratio. Therefore, although the final microfilming at Research

Publications was done at a constant reduction ratio, there is no constant relation between the relative size of documents on our film and the actual dimensions of the originals.

The integrity of the documents was the editors' foremost concern. No document has been altered. Very few extractions were made and they are noted in every case. No marks were made by us on copies received except, in some cases, for bold editorial lines with arrows, to denote the beginning and end of a document. Such indications were also used to note overlapping when a large page had to be copied in sections.

The editors aimed at comprehensiveness. This objective required inclusion of some texts so mutilated or faint in the original as to be minimally legible. These are given nevertheless for whatever information can be extracted from them. Some are more legible in the technically enhanced copies than in the originals.

As in all publications, the originals remain the ultimate source to be consulted when issues of textual validity arise. The location of every document is given in a headnote.

How They Are Presented

Each entry consists of a headnote with the document's date, a brief description, and the source, followed by the document itself. In a few cases a translation or annotation will follow the document.

Each headnote description reflects the perspective of the document rather than editorial comment about it. As descriptions were often taken from catalogs or notations of source repositories, spelling of names is not standardized. Editorial remarks, if present, appear in parentheses or annotations.

Bracketed dates have been assigned by the editors. Single documents are given with the date when written regardless of the time referred to in their contents. This has been done because documents are products of the time and circumstances when written, and these may seriously affect interpretation of the contents. To

preserve textual integrity, some texts have been included as found in collections of documents spanning a period of time which is so dated: e.g., 1645-Sept 1654. Multiple copies of the same document, same date, are distinguished as Document I, Document II, etc., and filed in sequence under their common date.

If a document is dated more than one year from the date of the treaty to which it pertains, it is cross-referenced under the treaty date. Because of the prolonged nature of many treaty negotiations, users should scan the compilation's calendar to find appropriate documents within a year of any event of interest. Although cross-references refer to specific documents, distinguished by Roman numerals in cases in which there is more than one document of the same date, references to other documents in editorial remarks within descriptions of a particular document do not make use of Roman numerals to distinguish between documents of the same date. In these cases, all documents of the date cited should be checked for the reference.

The editors have not tried to reconcile or adjust dates in the Old Style Julian calendar used by the English for many years after the French and Dutch had changed over to the New Style Gregorian calendar. Dates are given herein as they appear on the documents. When the English finally changed over, they often gave both new and old dates on the same text; in such instances the editors opted for the New Style annotation.

The project staff has compiled and edited a printed reference manual to assist in interpreting the texts, and we urge that it be kept handy during research. It is <u>The History and Culture of Iroquois Diplomacy: An Interdisciplinary Guide to the Treaties of the Six Nations and Their League (Syracuse: Syracuse University Press, 1984).</u> It is a volume for quick and easy reference, self-contained but especially useful in conjunction with this compilation of documents.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

This archive could not have been compiled without the generous contributions of counsel and materials from many persons and agencies. No one is intentionally left out of the following list. Pardon is asked for any inadvertent omission.

Indian people: Early in the project, Richard Powless and Paul Williams of the Union of Ontario Indians provided a list of treaty documents. Seven persons from the Union of Ontario Indians visited the project from 23rd to 29th June 1979 and offered comments and suggestions. Phil Monture, Land Researcher at Six Nations Reserve shared knowledge of locations of source materials. George Abrams, Director of the Seneca Iroquois National Museum on the Allegany Seneca Reservation, and Ramona Charles, Librarian at the Community House on the Tonawanda Seneca Reservation, provided information about the location of materials. Tribal historians from different political persuasions on fellowship at the Center discussed the project with staff members during their residence: Norbert Hill and Sandra Orie came from the Oneida Reservation in Wisconsin, and Douglas George, recommended by the "traditional" Mohawk Nation, came from the St. Regis (Akwesasne) Reservation. Everett White, born and raised at St. Regis (Akwesasne), provided valuable information about documents based on his former experiences as an Indian Health Service employee and his personal interest in the history of his people. Most important information and advice were given on a visit by Cayuga Chief Jacob E. Thomas who represents the Cayuga nation in the Grand Council of the Houdenosaunee and teaches in Trent University, Peterborough, Ontario. On 22nd May 1980, Chief Thomas made a joint presentation with Dr. Michael K. Foster, Iroquoian Ethnologist of the Canadian National Museum of Man. At a colloquium at the Newberry, they showed slides and facsimile artifacts and explained symbols in terms of Iroquois custom. Through the following day, Chief Thomas held nonstop conversation with project staff who took extensive notes and taped his analyses of certain wampum belts. He continued

in correspondence afterward. Informal visitors to the project included Charles Patton and Tyler Hemlock, Caughnawaga (Kahnawake) Mohawks; and Alice Armstrong and Helen Laughing, Mohawks employed in the Demographic Office, Mohawk Tribal Offices, St. Regis Reservation.

When Associate Director Mary A. Druke traveled to Indian communities, she was received hospitably everywhere. Indians of Onondaga, including Oren Lyons, Irving Powless, Jr., and Irving Powless, Sr., though unsympathetic to the project, received her graciously and explained their attitudes. Information about documentary material and oral traditions were provided to her by residents of the following Indian communities: Allegany; Cattaraugus; Caughnawaga (Kahnawake), Onondaga, St. Regis (Akwesasne), Six Nations Reserve; Tonawanda; and Tuscarora.

Project Aides:

Consultants. Charles Gehring, of the New York State Library, Manuscripts, provided notes on Dutch manuscripts in the Livingston Family Papers at the Franklin D. Roosevelt Library. Paul Stevens, a Fellow at the McNickle Center, compiled and annotated source documents of the era of the American Revolution. Another McNickle Center Fellow, Professor Richard Haan, contributed copies of odd documents he had been collecting for ten years. Mary Ann Mayes searched William N. Fenton's files and compiled a list of cited Iroquois documents. Lieutenant Commander C. McD. Stuart, RN, searched uncalendared treaty texts at the Public Record Office of Great Britain and arranged for transmission of copies. Paul Grey, graduate student at the University of London, acted as liaison between the project staff and the Public Record Office in acquiring documents ordered by the staff. Professional indexer Elin Christianson advised on indexing procedures. Major F.E.G. Bageshawe, of Matlock, England, provided photographs of a wampum belt in private hands.

Office employees at various times included Nancy Kovitz; Peter Radke; Polly Strong, University of Chicago graduate student; Andrew Tobin, Bennington College student; Karli Erica White. Wesley Andrews arranged much of the final organization

of the archive files. The project was also helped by several students enrolled in undergraduate independent study seminars of the Association of the Colleges of the Midwest and the Great Lakes Colleges Association, whose wages were paid by the associations and the Newberry. David L. Ghere accomplished "last minute" tasks.

Volunteers included Claudette Alm; Jeanette Campanella; Lucy Caples; Herbert Furse; Ted Knutson; Nancy Kovitz; Dorothy Markowitz; Virginia Meyers; Noel O'Reilly; Mary Louise Ramsey; Mrs. Gerald Sivage. They sorted and identified the masses of documents arriving in the mails, and put them in order for editors' review.

Newberry Library staff. Special interest was maintained and special help provided by John Aubrey, Michael Kaplan, Steve Mandel, Terry Sullivan, and Michelene Fixico; and much gratitude is owed for the patience of Richard H. Brown.

Advice and information were exchanged with colleagues of the Atlas of Great Lakes Indian History project: Helen Hornbeck Tanner, Adele Hast, and Jacqueline Peterson. The members of the Conference on Iroquois Research and the American Society for Ethnohistory devoted three successive panel sessions to the project at annual meetings.

Institutions:

Special gratitude is owed to the Public Archives of Canada for its gift of copies of treaties and surrenders in its possession. Thanks must also be expressed to the Rochester [N.Y.] Museum and Science Center for its donation of photographs of its large collection of wampum belts. The University of Chicago made copyflo paper copies of microfilm at a minimal cost far below commercial prices. Research Publications sent a photographer without charge to film documents located at the Albany Institute of History and Art and at the New York State Archives in Albany. Work on the project was greatly facilitated by materials collected in research travel previous to the project and incorporated into project files. The American Philosophical Society made such research fellowship grants to Director Jennings

and Associate Director Druke. Through such generous contributions, as well as time and energy given by individuals, the project managed to stay within its budget despite its massive increase in size. When the project could not be finished within its allotted three years, the Newberry Library financed it to completion.

Thanks are due to each repository, publication, or individual source of materials listed below which made available copies of materials in its collections. together they have made this publication possible.

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WHERE APPROPRIATE, DOCUMENTS AND WAMPUM BELTS IN THIS MICROFILM PUBLICATION ARE INCLUDED WITH THE KIND PERMISSION OF THE SOURCES LISTED ABOVE. IN OTHER INSTANCES, PERMISSION FOR INCLUSION WAS NOT GRANTED, AND IN THIS CASE, A REFERENCE TO THE DOCUMENT IS INCLUDED IN THE CALENDAR OF DOCUMENTS PUBLISHED IN THE GUIDE TO THIS COLLECTION. ON THE MICROFILM, A GAP IN THE SEQUENTIAL NUMBERING OF DOCUMENTS HEADED BY THE SAME DATE IS AN INDICATION OF A DOCUMENT DELETION DUE TO FAILURE TO OBTAIN REPRODUCTION PERMISSION.

(121)

The Warriors Speech with three Strings of Wampum.

Father

Hear us War chiefs & Warriors.

Since the Beginning of these Troubles, you & our Uncles the Sachems Words of Advice are sounding in our Ears, encouraging us to defend our Property & Lands, we have allways acted accordingly, but we dont know where our Lands be. We beg of you Father to point them out to us with your finger; these are the few words we have to tell you.—

In Presence of Mr. Le Gras Pierreville and Mr. Lecombe Juge of the Ind. Departm.t

Chev. Lorimer Interp.

Translation of the Indian Speech to Col. Campbell &c.

The Speech of several Indian chiefs of the Lake of the two Mountains, as delivered to Col. Campbell in the Council house at Montreal the 7th of Febr: 1760 Interpreted by the Chevalr Lorimier.

Father There being nothing certain in this Life, we were not sure when we parted with you last at our Village whether we should see you again; We therefore are rejoiced to meet you in good health, & salute you in these three Strings of Wampum in the mean time we open your Ears that you may fix in your Heart the interesting Business we have to lay before you; We can assure you it is an Affair of great Consequence to us.

By this Belt which according to our Custom we consider the same as white people do Records or Instruments of writing: we beg you will overlook any improper Expressions of ours, and ascribe the same to our Ignorance, putting your best Construction upon it.

We therefore acquaint You Father with what past in our Village; We always thought we lived upon our own Land according to the Acct our Forefathers handed down to us, but Father now a days we are told the contrary. Last Summer we offered our Brothers the Canadians to pay a Dollar a piece for pasturing their Cattle during the Season on our Land, to which they would not agree, upon which we left it to the Arbitration of our spiritual Father Mons. de la Garde, who when we were offered half a dollar thought it was enough, but we refused three different times as he offered us 6 livers, which we likewise refused which displeased him very much.

Having then told you that our Father was angry with, and abused us, our young Men were vexed when they heard him and answered him saying Have we then for in vain exposed our Lives during this War to defending our property since you say it is yours, for the future you

you may go for Fish and we will stay at home. ——
Such which he answered us that he never engages us as
it was our own Choice & Inclination that guided us;
The Young Men were mad and went away without taking
Leave the great part of the Chiefs, only the educated
Son daughter Rose & others remained, the former took
up the Discourse and said, Father I am surprised to see
a Man of your Character put himself in such a great
Passion, I never heard such Expressions out of a Clergy-
mans Mouth, you tell us that these Lands dont belong
to us, none of your Predecessors ever told us so for Ca-
mage when General Carleton passed this way to
the Chaudieres, Mr. Farley our deceased Father talked
upon me to accompany him, and charged me that in case
General Carleton asked any Questions where the cultiva-
ted Lands on the North side of y. River were, to tell Him
they were the Indians of the Lake, which also came
to pass, and the General seemed satisfied. ——
We then left our Father, but next day he called a Comme
again to tell us that we should have a Dollar a Demand
when he would only have 3 Livres apiece for himself
but we must be answerable for the Damages the Cattle
might do in our Corn, as well as that of our Brothers the
Canadians. These last words have hitherto caused
much Rancour & soured our Tempers very much, tho' we
would not shew it or make a Noise about it in Expectation
Matters would change for the better, but last Autumn
the Sore entirely opened afresh; Our Women were a
going to clear Land & marked the Trees, to which our
Father the priest opposed himself saying that that Land
belonged to him and that we had trespassed upon his right
& wont in the least allow us to enlarge our Fields & Meadows
And claims the overplus of Hay for our consumption.

Then the Speaker showing a Belt of Wampum
addressed himself to Co. Campbell said this white Line
Father in the Belt describes agreeable to our Custom the
Length of our Lands, these Figures hand in hand joining

The

The Cross, represent the Faith we have to Religion we all profess, the Body represents the Council Fire of our Village, the two Dogs at each end are intended for garding the Borders of our Lands, that in case any one was to disturb our peaceable Possession, they are to warn us by barking, which they have done these 3 Years past, The Evil was then not so great as it is now. About three or four Months ago one of our Chiefs took a walk into the woods, when he found People chaining or drawing Line he asked by whose Order they did so, they answered by Mr Lagarde's whereupon our chief returning to the Village called a Council & told us, Brothers our Dogs are better than we imagined for they bark at the Entrance of our Village where the Surveyor is chaining close under the Mountain, we sent Messengers to call the Surveyor but he was gone. We went to our Priest who assured us that it was him gave the Orders for so doing Here we were wrong to say any thing ag.st it, as not a grain of Seed in the whole Seigneurie was our property or below it and we have nothing left now but a bare Rock [illegible] and hereby deliver you up our Deed or Contract for the Belt. In order to convince you that we keep nothing concealed from you, wishing our Father M.r Lagarde would do the same when you would be able to judge whether we are in the right or wrong. We have tried all Manner & Means to live all in Harmony, but we could not bring it about; All our Redress therefore lays with you Father being your dutifull Children, and that you will act for our welfare, reflect upon our dismal Situation, you see us our Wives & Children groaning under our Lord of Troubles, even our Animals feel the Distress having nothing left us but a bare Rock, and if we pass that, or our Creatures we are drove back again. We therefore beg Father you will have Compassion on us, and from you only we expect a Decisive Answer.

The Warrior

Montreal the 8th Feby 1781

Sir

You will please inform the Commander in Chief that I have just done Cloathing the Different Villages, and that I have the pleasure to assure his Excellency that they are all in the Best Disposition possible That I will Engage for their Good behaviour Shou'd the Enemy attempt to Invade the Province, That I have sent to Call in all those that are Abroad on the Hunt, and sent Messages to the Missisagues to Be ready to come Down Shou'd they be Called for

That I have sent a Scout By Fort George Down the north River and to Return By Skenesboro, another up otter Creek, and a third By Capt. Mathews &c Regan's Road

to continue the Same until they shall
make some Essential discovery or
may be interrupted Before they
made
have a prisoner. this and the party
down the North River are Conducted
by two Serjants of Sir John Johnson's
intelligent men thoroughly
acquainted in the Country and
very Capable for the trust
That I request the General would
be Good Enough to give his Orders
authorising Such party's to receive
Salt Pork or amount of the Sa-
riage one pound of the one with one
a quater Length than Six of the
other — I have the Honor to
Be with great Esteem
Sir
your most Obt and
most humble Servant
John Campbell Lt 60rs

From D 1781.
Lieut. Ld. Campbell
8th Feb. Rec'd 10th

Albany February 24th 1781

Gentlemen

Congress have been repeatedly and fully informed of the very distressed condition of the Oneida & Tuscarora Indians in respect to cloathing, provisions and shelter the only answer we have obtained is a letter from the board of war in which they observe that nothing more is in their power than to afford some refuse cloathing

The naked condition to which those faithful and suffering allies are reduced is truly lamentable, and we hope will claim the attention of the legislature as their constituents are immediately interested in preventing those Indians from being driven by necessity to such support with the common enemy.

We are informed that two hundred blankets in the hands of Wm Cornelius Glen may be procured for them; but as we have no money it is impossible for us to make the purchase, we therefore humbly submit the legislature to afford us such assistance in the premises as they shall deem meet.

We have the honor to be

with sentiments of great respect

Your Honors most Obedient

& most humble Servants

Ph. Schuyler
Volckert P. Douw
} Commissioners for Indian Affairs

To The Honorable the Senate & Assembly of the State of New York

Application of Ph. Schuyler & Volckert P. Douw Esquires requesting the Act of the Legislature to purchase Blankets for the Indians

24 Nov. 1787

(Copy)

Detroit 3d April 1764

Sir,

By the Felicity I did myself the Honor to forward my Journal of the Quantity of Provisions that could be purchased in the Settlement, since which I have had a more particular survey taken; an Extract I herewith enclose for your further information, allowing the Inhabitants the necessary milch Cows and Oxen for tilling the Ground; few can be spared, some may be brought in from the Indian Country, but it is precarious particularly at this time. The Prospect of getting up little Provisions this Summer, and the Indians threatning a visit, Urges me to send down the Chiefs, the most dangerous of them such as have no Families, and such as attempted their Lives. I send

I have the Honor to be

Sir,

Your most Obed.t humble Serv.t

Brig.r Gen.l Powell. (Signed) H.y Gl. De Peyster

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(Copy)

Detroit April 3. 1764

Sir,

Lieut.t Ralfe Clinch of Colonel Butlers Rangers having signified his desire to succeed to the Ensigncy in the Kings Regiment — I take the opportunity of recommending him for the Vacancy in the present succession, if not already filled up. I dare say Colonel Butler will not be surprized to hear the young Gentleman is

desirous

desirous of returning to his old acquaintances, having been a Volunteer in the King's Service near a twelve month, and distinguished himself so under Captain Bird, that the Regiment regretted much the loss of so promising a young Man. If through your interposition Mr. Clinch should succeed, You will greatly oblige, Sir,

Your Humble & Obedient
Servant.

(Signd) Alex. St. De Peyster

Brigadier General Powell.

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(Copy)

Detroit April 4th. 1781

Sir,

By the Felicity which sailed on the 18th. ult. I did myself the honor to acquaint you with every transaction worth your notice at and near this Post, since which Mr. Alex. McKee arrived here with some principal Chiefs of the Mingoes, Delawares, Wyandotts, and Shawanese, who declare they have every reason to believe that Mr. Clarke is to enter their Country this Summer with three Thousand Men and some Cannon — They therefore have brought the Belt of Alliance with them to claim the assistance heretofore promised upon the like occasions, declaring that, if not assisted, must fall back and be maintained here, or make the best Peace for themselves they can — I have accounts from all Quarters that an Expedition is intended against the Indian Country and even to this Post if they can find Passage — I wish it was in my Power to assist the Indians with a Body of Troops to give a decisive Stroke to Mr. Clarke's incursions into

into the Indian Country, being informed by some of the Prisoners, that should he fail in this attempt, the Settlers upon Kentuck will leave that Country all together — Mr. M.Kee informs me that the people of Kentuck are night and day employed in removing their Families and Effects to a large Settlement called Bryants Station, where they hope to remain in security during Clarke's Expedition — That they are gathering Magazines in different Quarters, one of which some of our Indians under Mr. Elliot (who I sent from here) have found. — I now send down one of their Deputy Commissaries by Name Whitton, who confirms the same, he was taken by Simon Girty driving his Team to collect the Salted meat he had contracted for. The Wyandotts take down twelve Prisoners, as per enclosed List, should any of these get into that Country again, it may be attended with very bad consequences — The Indians have the alarm amongst them that Colonel John Campbell who I sent down in Novr. 1779 has got back to Fort Pitt, I am sure the report is not true, therefore have endeavoured to settle their minds — they say it would be using them cruelly to let them fight twice against the same Person.

I have just had time to copy a Speech received from the Miamis, where assistance is also demanded — I enclose it for yours and Colonel Johnsons information, and hope you'll forward it to His Excellency the Commander in Chief — The Miamis must be content to defend themselves with, or even without Capt. Thompson should He be required with his Rangers in the Shawanese Country — nor can I at present spare the Lake Indians

to

to go towards Fort Defiance [illegible] in order to Form a Camp at Sandusky, besides the Miamies, Likapous &c. being rather disaffected as appears by their Speech, it would be best first to bring them over once more to our way of thinking.

I have Scouts out in every Quarter and hope soon to give you some certain account of the Enemys motion if they really intend it — Capt. Wm Kay proposes to go to Niagara with two or three of their principal Chiefs who are desirous of speaking with the Six Nations — Hereby be able to give the result of a Council held at this place as soon as the Indians can be assembled.

I have this Honor to be

Sir,

Your most Obedient and

humble Servant

(Signed) A. S. DePeyster

Brigad. General Powell.

Copies of three Letters from Major DePeyster to Brig. Gen. Powell, two of which are dated the 3d. and the other the 4th of April 1781. at Detroit —

From George Johnson to Alex McKee. 250

(Copy)

Niagara, 7th April, 1781.

Sir:

The late letters from Detroit and from yourself, which have been communicated to me, has induced me with General Powell's approbation to send a message to encourage and strengthen the hearts of the Indians in your quarter, and particularly the Shawanese, and those who are most exposed to an invasion. The Great distance from hence, and the uncertainty of affairs at present renders it difficult to say how far the Six Nations may be able to aid them, but I am sure they 'll ~~will~~ do so as far as time and circumstances will permit. In the present state of things, from the accounts we have of the rebels, and of the success of our troops in Virginia, ~~&c~~ as well as from the great distance and difficulty of the route to Detroit, it does not seem probable they can come there in force within a short time; but the vigilance of your scouts will enable us to judge farther by procuring intelligence of their last motions.

The person whom I have sent with the message is Capt Brant of my department, who is accompanied by 17 Indians, and from his vigilance I expect the message committed to him, and

the object of his journey will be faithfully executed. He will shew you his instructions, and meet with your assistance, and it will doubtless be pleasing to the Shawanese to see him and those of the Six Nations with him.

Kagashota left this long since with belts from the Eastern Indians, the Six Nations and myself, but got a hurt and lies ill at Kadaragaras.

I am with regard Sir,

Your very humble servant,

(Sgd) Geo. Johnson.

Alex. McKee, Esq.,

7th April, 1781

From Geo. Johnson

To Alex McKee.

252

Accompt of Provision
purchased at Niagara
by Dan.l Bliss
between 25th Septr. 80
and 24th March 1781

Niagara 8th April 1781.

Sir,

169

By the Winter express which left this place the 19th February I transmitted a Return, and wrote an account of Indian Affairs to that time which I hope was received safe.—
I have now the Honor to transmit to your Excellency a Return of my Department, with that of the Indian parties now on service with such farther particulars as have occurred since my last.—

In my Letter I mentioned that I had 350 Indians then on Service since which several parties have marched one of which is led by Allen who was recommended by your Excellency to be provided for, and is now in my Department.— Three of my Officers are now out with the other parties, the whole strength of which is 360.— Capt Brant returned with his party on the 17th ult: he unluckily arrived one day too late at Fort Stanwix otherwise he would have cut off 50 provision Sleds with their guard, however he fell on a party of Wood Cutters belonging to the Garrison, killed one, and brought in 16 prisoners, they belong to Col Van Cortlands rebel Regiment part of which relieved that post late last season, to the Number of About 150, or 4 Companies. They report that the rebel Army is in the greatest distress, and want almost all the Necessaries of Life, that the Pensilvania Troops mutinied in the Jerseys and Marched home, killing five of their principal Officers who attempted to prevent them.— That Gen: Arnold was very busy in the Cause of Government, & that it was reported the French now at Rhode Island were to Invade Canada in the Spring and that their Major had left the Garrison being ordered on that Service.

His Excellency
General Haldimand &c

The

The party with Shenop (as mentioned in my last) seperated, part went against a Rebel Block House at Wioming on the Susquehanna under Lieut Kyknap, but were obliged to retire with the Loss of one Indian, another party took a prisoner, The rest are still out as is Shenop with those who remained with him, and beside the 360, mentioned on Service in the Return, a large party of Senecas are just marched from their Village against the Rebells, and another is in preparation to go towards Fort Pitt. — The Indians at Kadaragara and the New Settlements near it are alarmed with the report that a body of Virginians are shortly to come against them, and Reconnoitring partys are gone from thence whose discoveries will I am hopefull enable us to give a good Account of them if they attempt it, and the accounts lately received from Detroit of which your Excellency will receive the particulars by this opportunity, have induced me to send Capt Brant with 17, Young Warriors, and a Speech & Belt (with General Powells approbation) to the Indians there & likewise to the Shawanese Villages to encourage them to act with Vigour, & to watch the Enemys motions, with the promise of such Aid as time & Circumstances will permit from hence, but the great distance between the falls of Ohio, & Detroit, the still greater distance from whence most of their Supplys particularly Flour must be drawn, with other difficulties respecting Carrying places, &c induces me to think that shou'd their Number be as large as reported, they have some other object, & probably it may be nearer hand as conjectured by the Indians. —

I have prevailed on the Onondagas, Cayugas, with part of the Oneidas & Delawares, to Settle on & plant above the falls on Chenusio River, & shall assist them with some of the Corn mentioned in my last, & with Axes & Hoes to enable them to

provide

provide for themselves, & thereby after some time to defray the Consumption of provisions; the Number that go to plant will I believe exceed One thousand, and their Warriors are to be ready at a Call on an Emergency,— I shall endeavor to settle many of them at convenient planting Grounds, if I can get them Supplied with the Necessaries for that purpose in due time, There is no Corn as yet come to Carleton Island, but I have luckily procured some from Detroit,— 170

The Publick Accounts will go by the next opportunity when I shall write farther, being now much taken up with the Indians who are preparing to go to their planting grounds, and I hope to reduce their Number here considerably in the Course of this Month, whilst I omit no opportunity of attending to all other Objects in which the Service is interested.—

I have the Honor to be, with respectfull
Sir, Your Excellencys most Obedient
& most humble Servant
Guy Johnson

From H 1/01

Col. Johnson, of the 8th
April, Recd 19th with
inclosures Copy General Orders
of the Officers & Indians &c

(Copy)

Quebec April 11th 1781

Sir

I have received your letter of the 19th last February covering a General State of your Department, and acquainting of your Endeavors to reduce the Consumption of Provisions, which I am glad to hear you have in some Measure effected, and that the Indians are so reasonable as to acknowledge the difficulties attending the Support of such a Multitude as now depend upon the King's Store for Subsistence, a Circumstance which must be discouraged as much as possible, and which they must this Year take various measures, in time, to prevent, to which I shall contribute as much as I can by sending them Corn to Plant, which is now at Coteau-du-Lac in order to be forwarded by the first Bateaux, on its Arrival at Niagara I depend upon your attention in immediately distributing it to the best advantage, and setting them to Work in planting it, giving them to understand that in Proportion to the Quantity they receive, it is expected they are to Subsist upon the Produce, and it would be well to set down the Quantities given, and to whom, in order to bring them

Colonel Johnson

Fort Erie
11 April, 1781

Brant, J., to [Daniel Claus]

Letter in Mohawk &c

translation see XXIV, 13

II, 13-14

Fort Erie April 11th 1781

Waathonirongh wera don Eso wagatshennonni
Onen are nonwa wagatkaghthon ne sagkya=
don agwash Esolegonnonghweradongh ne tsi=
nighyerha ... ne ne teyaghre, tsigiteron
Eso wagyenawate, tyotkon ne sawenna, waga=
ronge. akoni agwaghniyawen ne shegon=
kenonenthighonke tsioni sanonghsote
Ayawen shennen aaghsenxonghdonnion,
ne ne yaghteyotkate ne ugh agonghyadon=
geyaghre se tyotkonnote

Agwagh, wagenhaten, ne yaghten
ethoteyawenongh ne tsinkaoraghwi'on ne
Captain Johnson ayongere non ne tsithadinagere
Bastonnnon Col. Johnston, Raoriwa, Ranoron
tsinikonigonghroten, tsiniyoght yaghtegha=
nonwete, ne tyaahtyaki, nonkadi ya age - aewa
nigh tyotkongenonwete ne shakat agenhage
Rariwat waghki, nonwa yongwaronyage

14 ne kadi, sonwaghonni, onen geathe gileron—
Raongha Ct. Johnson ethenakayere onen, wa-
gennowenghte, ti niwagerighwison ne Captain John-
sawanenronongc, yagenwage, aiegeagh yondon
taghonne ne Kastonronon yaghkadi, tegonwaden
nageaigonra, tiwagaghtentyon hattye
togaat yaghten niright-wison
Captain John- a ageaionghto
ge— Tewaghsheu niyagyon ne yongwaghtention
hattye, niyategonghwe nyage ——
yaghotheron tekarighwanagere ne oriwage
Waathwanonghweradon agwegon iste tesenitoron
enionwanonghsishon— 20
Jr. Thayendanegen

I shall write to you as soon as I get to Detroit—
I am sorry that I should be there at this time for
I am entirely disappointed purpose — J. B —

42 Translation of a letter, in Mohawk, on page 15, Vol. 3. 'Claus Papers'

—#—

Fort Erie, April 11th 1781.

I salute you. I was very glad when I saw your writing once more. Many are my thanks to you for what you are doing for us. You always remember me, and it helps me so much every time I hear from you. Many thanks also to know that you and your household are in the enjoyment of good health.

I trust your mind will be calm notwithstanding my neglect of writing you more often. I am always thinking of you.

I regret very much that the plan whereby Captain John and I were to have gone to the country of the Bostonians was not carried out. It was Col. Johnson's doing. His mind is beyond comprehension. It would seem that he does not like me to go to Montreal. As for me, I have always desired to be of one mind with my comrades, for we are now suffering as one. That is the reason why I am here just now. Through the doings of Col. Johnson. I have thus lied to Capt John because I have not kept my promise made to him.

I am supposed to be going to the Shawnees, because it is reported the Bostonians are coming. There is no

no peace in my mind as I am on my way. Had I not made arrangements with Captain John my mind would not now be troubled.

There are twenty of us on the march of all tribes.

There are no fresh news here.

I send my compliments to you and to your wife and to Sir John Johnson.

Jos. Thayendanegea.

Translation of a letter in Mohawk on page 13
Vol. 3, Claus Papers.

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Jos. Thayendanegea.

from ~~Genl~~ 1781.

Coll Johnson

20th April

Copy

Encl No 22

Niagara 23d April 1781.

Sir,

175

I have the Honor to inform your Excellency that since my Letter of the 9th instant, Sayengaraghta made me a Visit, and marched from this on the 15th with a party of Senecas who are to be joyned by a much larger Number destined against the Communication to Fort Pitt. Another party is marched towards Schenectady & others to the Susquehanna Delawares. Vide a quable to the inclosed Return; Some parties have likewise returned from the frontiers, Namely a party of Delawares who brought a prisoner and Scalp from Minisinks; another of Senecas, who took two prisoners at Shamokin, one of whom made his Escape from them by the way; Some Senecas of Capt. Shenops party who killed Capt Champlin of the Corps of Nine Months Men, and one Serjeant and a private, on the West branch of Susquehanna, and took two prisoners on the 22d Ulto. and I am informed Capt Shenop is returning with 4 prisoners and 3 Scalps taken near Easton.

The Information of one of the Prisoners will be transmitted by Brig.r Gen.l Powell, and they all concurr in what relates to Arnolds being in Chesapeak bay and in the Successfull Movements of the Southern Army, as well as of an intended invasion of Canada. Should there be any design formed to Cut off the New Settlements made by the Indians, or to Establish

His Excellency
General Feldmarshal Haldimand &c.

least at Tioga as some report, the Many parties I have now dispersed along the frontiers will enable us to have timely notice of their movements.—
The difficulty that would attend the Assembling such Indians as were disposed to settle above the falls of Shenufsio River, and the probability that their families would be exposed, If their Men were called away, as well as their being liable to be tamper'd with by the Rebells more especially the lately acquired Oneidas & Canaghsaraggys has induced me to direct them to settle on the Rich plains in the Neighbourhood of the Seneca Settlements I formed last Year on Buffaloe Creek, where besides their being less exposed to do, or to suffer harm, they can be more readily collected on any emergency, and the goodness of the Soil will sooner enable them to provide for themselves; I must however presume to observe that those families who go to plant having nothing to subsist on till they can raise Grain, will expect to have some provision till they can assist themselves, otherwise they may lay aside the design;— Kayashota sailed for Detroit, some days since with the Belts from the Eastern Indians, the Six Nations & myself, which will greatly encourage the Shawanese &c.

Since writing the foregoing an Express arrived from Tiadaraqaras with Intelligence the Substance of which I herewith inclose, it partly corresponds with what has been received from other places, and I am inclined to think the Rebells will try their Efforts against the Settlements this way, as well as to the Southward; The many parties I have fortunately sent to Ohio within the last three Weeks, and others going will however prevent a Surprize and enable us to know more particulars shortly.—

&c

As this is the Season the Indians prepare for planting I shall not unless in case of necessity disturb, or interrupt the Main body, as it would prevent them from raising Grain for this Season but I have above Five hundred Indians on service in different partys & shall keep that Number out, directing their motions principally to the Quarter from whence we may Expect to be disturbed Using My best endeavors to discover and defeat the designs of the Rebells.—

176

I have the Honor to be, with true respect

Sir,

Your Excellencys most humble
and most Obedient Servant

Johnson

From A 1781.

Col.d Guy Johnson

23.d April - Rec.d 17th May

A

17.th June

(Copy)

Quebec 24th April 1781

177

Sir/

Your letter of the 8th Instant was received the 20th, and with it a Return of the Indian Department and the War Parties now on Service. My Answer to your Letter by the last Express will inform You that the Indian Corn for the new Settlements was in readiness for the first Convey and from Coteau du Lac, and I hope it is ere now sent off. I am pleased that You procured some from Detroit to make a beginning and I earnestly recommend to You to persevere in encouraging the Settlements already began, and all others whose Situations favor Cultivation, and are most Convenient for watching the Enemies Motions. The many Obstacles to the Enemy's penetrating far into the Country towards Detroit, with such a force as to be alarming, must be obvious to all who consider them, and if the Indians in that Quarter are determined to do their Duty to the King and to themselves it is impossible their Attempts can succeed. The Defeat of so large a Body of the Enemy by a few Indians last Year, is a Proof

Colonel Johnson

of

(Copy)

Detroit April 25th. 1764

Sir,

I am favoured with your Letter of the 7th. and 10th. April. You will see by the annexed Intelligence that Mr. Clark has failed in his application for procuring a sufficient Body of Troops to enable Him to penetrate this Year — it is nevertheless thought he will enter the Indian Country with about one Thousand men — as I have had a Council with the Indians upon the Subject the 5th. instant, the substance of which I now forward — You will see the Steps I proposed to take and which will be necessary for me to pursue in order to please the Indians who still persist in having the assistance of their Brethren from Detroit.

Letters from Captain Thompson mention that the Wabasche Indians are flocking in to speak with Him, that there are now above four Hundred Stranger Indians at the Miamis — The Scouts from Post Vincents are not yet returned — By this opportunity, I also forward two French Letters just received from an Indian, which will give some more insight into the late Colonel Le Balms Mission and fully expose the Sentiments of the People of Post Vincents —

27th. — Held a Council Yesterday, the proceedings of which I enclose — At the end of the Council you will see the substance of Mr. Cochrans Letter in some measure confirmed — The Indians are extremely troublesome in order to procure Troops to be sent with them to S. Dusky,

Joseph

I trust being convinced it is not in my power, unless that such Rangers as could be spared from Niagara, were sent.

The Gage will soon be in order to sail — Should Intelligence then arrive, to make such a Step more necessary than what it really appears to me at present, I will dispatch her with it.

I have the Honor to be

Sir,

Your most Obedient Servant

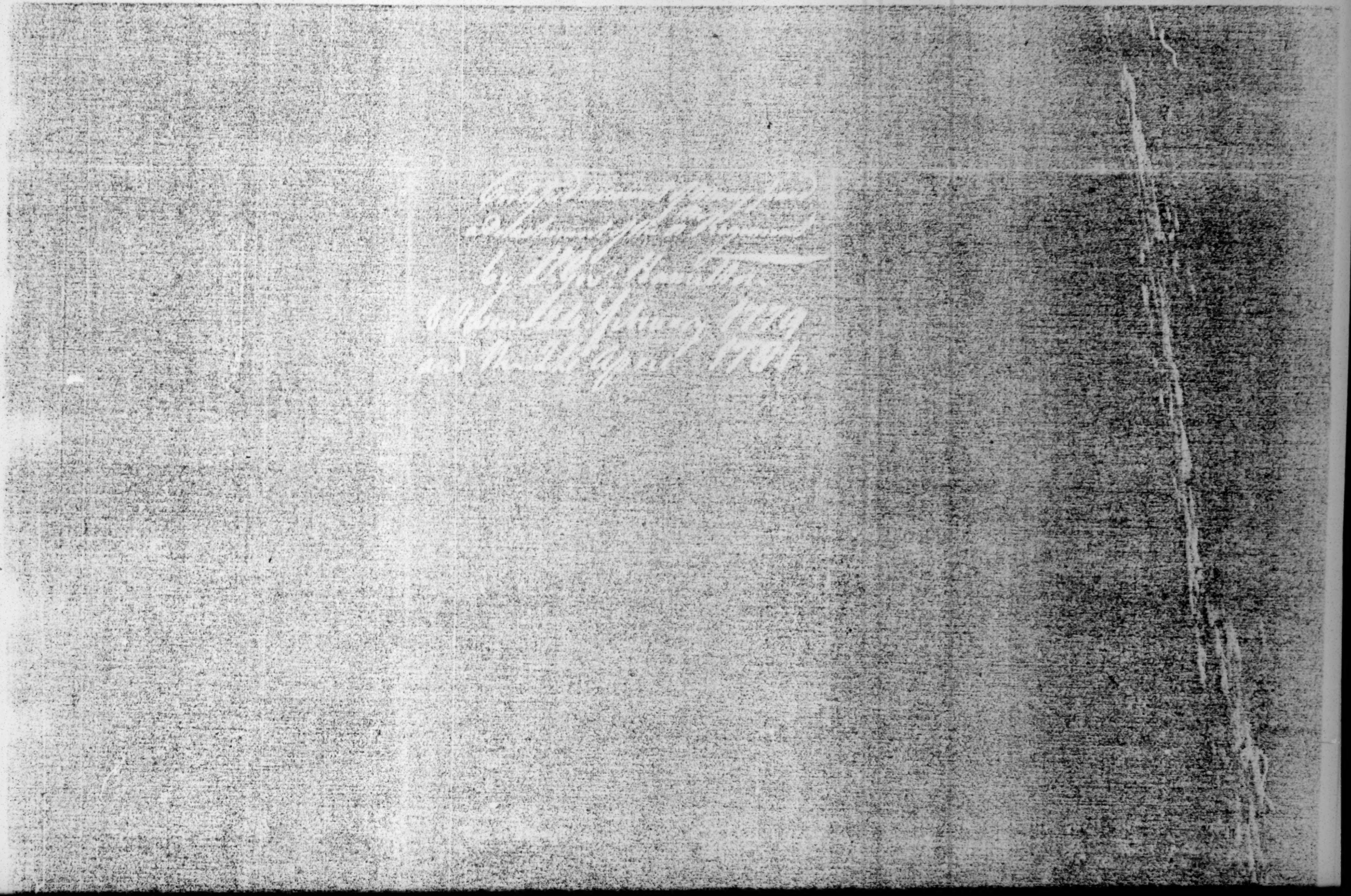
(Signed) A. L. De Peyster

P. S.

The Gage not being ready to sail, and as I am in doubt if the Wiandott must not go to Sandusky (two or three days will however determine it) I have ordered the master of the Felicity to wait for your dispatches.

Brig.r General Powell.

Copy of a Letter from
Major De Peyster to
Brig.r Gen.l Powell —
dated at Detroit the
25.th & 27.th April 1781



A council held by ...
ending Detroit ... with the ...

Present

Majr. DeKeyster Commanding
Majr. Gamble Commanding ...
Alexander McKee Esqr. Deputy ...
Capt. Henry Bird
Lieut. Thomas Bennet
Lieut. Daniel Mercer
Lieut. De Saumarez
Lieut. Pringat
Ensign P. R. Frey
} &c.
Lieutenant A. DuVernet A.
Lieut. Gustavus Manitan, ...

Sworn Interpreters

Duperon Baby. for the Ottawas
Isidore Chesne, for the Chippewas &c.
Pierre Druilliard, for the Hurons,
William Tucker for the Ottawas

| Nations | Indian | Chiefs | Chippewas |
|---|---|---|---|
| wa, shue, ta. | Huron. | Ottawaas | |
| y. a, in, di, in, ga | An, de, the, rey. | Cha, min, ta, wa | |
| or. J. Brant. | Sun, hun, go, ge | Me, with, grey. | |
| | Skon, de, non. | Ne, a, ghe, ga. | |
| | Sun, de, non. | She, wi, ehe, wa | |
| | Shu, ga, re, ts. | Pogo, she, we | |
| | Thi, ra, ton, at. | Me, ta, we | |
| | | Ne, guch | |
| | | Che, mun | |
| | | Otta, wa | |

2 Pottawatomies, Poua, ons, ke, taik Chibins, } Miamis Key, ta, gassi

Major DePeyster addressed himself to the Shawanese

Children!

These strings and Belt which you delivered to me the other day desiring that the same should be laid before the Ottawaas and the nations absent at the time your canoe was, that they may be informed of the purport of your Embassy which was, that the rebels were approaching your Country and that your Nation and their Confederacy on the Ohio, requested their immediate assistance as you are now present in this great Assemble. I must desire that you deliver your speech to them, I rejoice that you see here present a Nation that has been absent from this place for some time. / the Onondagas who arrived with our friends the Six Nations from Niagara to our assistance -

Sastarizy, a Huron Chief, spoke as follows

Father!

I pray you to attend, as also my Brethren from nigh and far to what I'm now going to say. Brethren!

you must have heard of the arrival of one of our Fathers Vessels from Niagara, wherein were our Brother, the Six Nations, two of their Chiefs told us that they now hoped that the Nations of this place would open their Ears Attend to what was good, Cayashuta who is now present, has animated us with his discourse, he added, that it was from us he looked out for assistance after that of his father ——

Pete, usher, then spoke as follows and strings —

3

Father!

Some days are elapsed since we arrived & met you in Council, we immediately disclosed unto you the purport of our Embassy from the Confederacy on the Ohio, who are much distressed by the Enemy, and request the assistance of their Father and his Children this Belt and String we left with you, in order that you might deliver our message to your Children the nations absent, I shall now address them before you in this great Assembly —

Brethren!

You know we are all of one blood and ought to be of one mind, as we are all of the same colour. I now speak to you in the name of the Confederacy on the Ohio, who have attached us to their Father and their Allies on hearing that the rebels were coming into their country, distressed them. the motive which alarmed us, was, the report we received from a Rebel prisoner which was brought in to our Village, he informed us that the Rebels were coming towards the Indian Country in a great body. this account being confirmed, caused our distress and recollected the ancient friendship which subsisted between us and our Allies the Aurons, Ottawaas, Pouttawatomies, Chippewas &c &c.

Brethren!

You know our strength, we are but few, and cannot do much, we have now come in to join you, who are said to be the strong Body, and by making One, we shall be able to repel that great Rebel force which is said to be coming —

Brethren!

Were we to sit Silent, when you must have knowledge of Situation, see this, We now make this Declaration before our Father and you who compose this great Council in order you may be well informed of our —

4 60

e, te, ushes, holding Indian Tobacco —

Brethren!

You have heard what I ha to say to you for the name of those that sent me, I now present you this Belt whe we have received from Heaven, and desire you to make use thereof and give us your immedi answer. — I need not tell you how to use it. you are well informed of our customs, which is when we are presented with this weed, we put for thanks, smoak thereof; it induces us then to grant whatever has been desired on it —

, delivers the Tobacco,

He then held out a Scalp with a piece of Tobacco tied thereto, and said much to the same purport as i Expression — the 5th and added,

Father

What I have just said to the Indian nations present, was no more than wha I have already spoken to you in Council the othe day, earnestly recommending that my brethren make no delay, but all get up, before the Enemy be upon us —

Major DePeyster addressd the Shawanoe Children.

I shall now say a few words to the Ottawas, Chippawas and the nation who were absent when I met you in council, when you requested immediate Succour, I shall give you all the assistance in my power, which will be the Supply of Ammunition and the necessary Clothing, you all knows that I am threatned from all Quarters, and what troops I have here will be employed to protect and defend this Post, when I shall have it in my power to receive all my Children with open Arms and Succour

them

with their assistance.

Children!

I have thought proper pitch upon St Doosky as a rendezvous for all warriors to repair to. I now desire that you attend that place accordingly. If any fire should be kindled immediately — I don't say that it is not necessary to prepare for, pray you Brethren the several Nations of this place to march towards the Lower I remember it was with difficulty I could make them wait this Grand Council, as they proposed to me repeatedly to set out in war parties of 10 or 15 Warriours — I now give you my opinion that it would tend for the general good, did all gather together and form yourselves in one great Body, by which means you will be able to frustrate any designs the Enemy may have or they penetrate in your Countries. I am happy that my opinion coincides with that of my Children —

Children!

I have received last night, a letter from Roche de Boeuf, which comes from a trader at that place, by which I am informed that the Enemy have taken possession of Kuskuskies and seem inclined to make for the upper St Doosky: for my part I dont put an implicit confidence in the Report, as I am not of opinion that the rebels would have made so rapid progress, if true, as I need not remark the top of that Village, it only serves to confirm us in the belief that the Indians who resided at Kuskuskies are our foes and Enemies to the Rebels —

Kayashuta Great Chief of the Seneca Nations, addresses himself to the several Indian Nations, in a strong warpum

I am heartily rejoiced to see you my Brethren all present assembled at our fathers Council fire, and I take this opportunity to Greet you all. I have but little to say,

6

repeat to you again that we brothers are but one, and that we the Six nations are come here to open your ears, to attend to what is good, or whatever our father may recommend — /delivers the 4 Strings/

Shi, ya, en, ne, ga, /alias/ Capt. Brandt, gets up and addresses himself to the several nations

Brethren

I am pleased to see you all prepared to assist our brethren the Shawanese agreable to their demand — I am come here among you upon business of great importance to the several nations and I mean to attend my father at the Council which is to be formed at Ft. Dorsky. there I shall deliver you the Speeches of the Six nations in presence of the Ohio Confederacy who will be there and I hope when you are inform. of the purport of my embassy, that you will see means that may unite us more strongly in the Cause we are all mutually engaged, and continue our friendly intercourses as the Meeting will be General —

Major D'Keyster, holding a Wampum

Children!

This War Belt is sent to you from the six Nations at Niagara in order that you may sharpen your several War hatchets, from Ft. Dorsky —

/delivers the Belt to Ca. ya, shu, ta who sings, as is usual on such occasions and says/

Take Courage Brethren, this the Axe of our Father and we shall make a good use of it — —

Ke, di, che, sey. Huron Chief sings, and says

Father! I sing, because I am disposed to meet my Brethren at your fire which you ask to light at St. Baskey —

Gushkewey Ottawa a Chief, sings and says. Father!

Your Children are prepared, and now let us see a number of your own colours, arise, let us see our Fathers take Courage —

Mash, que, ash, Chippewa a Chief.

Father!

You see here all your Children your speak always unto, but do look yourself, to see you get up, and not only direct us where we are to go —

Ne, gig Ottawa a Chief

Father! Why should I not carry of this hatchet when it's from you and my Brethren —

Kay'r DeWyster then closed this days Council by saying

Children! I

I have delivered you the hatchet which was sent to you, to chase your war Belts, and I have given you sufficient reasons which prevent my going out for there with you, you have then Liberty to go to that Island, do you imagine that as your father the King of England sits quiet he does nothing! if you think so, you are wrong, for he has his Children to support who are as numerous as the Sands on the

Mash, you ask if he chuses may rest quiet as he has done last year and no doubt you all may know him — you say I ought to get up. pray Do you see me idle, Dont you see how I am raising the ground about this place in order to be able to maintain it against any Enemy. and to protect the supplies necessary for my Children the Warriours — I have given my orders for all whites who belong to your Department to prepare themselves to join you at Ft Dearborn

/ extract from the Minutes /

= Jacob Schieffelin Sec.y

(Copy)

To

Colonel Guy Johnson

at Niagara 25th April

Sir,

Niagara 9th May 1781.

179

I had the Honor to write to your Excellency on the 23d ult. on the State of Affair respecting my Department, accompanied with a Return; Since which I convened the Chipeweighs and Missisagas interested in the Lands you directed to be purchased for the Crown and have obtained a Deed from them for the same in the usual form which was executed this day and is herewith inclosed; — I have not been able to find any Natural boundary, neither did I think it advisable to make the Lines parallels to the Courses of the Straits as it would be attended with difficulty and could not be easily comprehended by the Indians, but I took One Course to the Chipeweigh River, and another to Lake Erie, by which the contents are more favorable for Government (as I shall shew from a Sketch which I intend to transmit by another opportunity) and the Indians are well Satisfied, having received about the Value of Three hundred Suits of Clothing, which was as little as I could give them, and they would have got the Most part of that quantity in a little time, without any Consideration from their necessitous condition. —

I have the pleasure to Inform Your Excellency that Several parties are returned since my last, and all of them

His Excellency
General Haldimand &c

have

have been successfully, the party I sent under Lieut.t Bowen with David, Brother to Aaron the Mohock Chief has been the most so, having on the 23.d ult.o destroyed the Rebel Fort at Cherry Valley & afterwards cut off the Settlement (consisting of 24 Houses with Barns &c) at Bowmans Creek which was a Nest of disaffected people, & where they took and killed 16, and brought off 3 Loyalists, with 30 Head of Cattle besides Horses, The particulars of which with the agreable information received from the prisoners respecting our Success in Virginia &c will be communicated by Brig.r General Powell, and I have likewise this day received an Express from a Smaller party who have killed and taken 5 persons at Shamokin; — My time is now exceedingly taken up in getting the Indians off to their planting Grounds as it is a very interesting object, and therefore I shall defer entering into other circumstances 'till the next opportunity, In the Interim I am With perfect respect, Sir,

Your Excellencys most obedient
and faithfull humble Servant
G Johnson

P.S. One of my last partys has taken a Capt Salmon, a bitter Rebel, from Pensilvania who with others go down by this opportunity.
Mr. McKee is arrived with two Shawanese Chiefs, and a Message of Compliment &c. He will shortly return with them. —

1861

Jan

From

Geo. Hammond

Co.

8th Illinois Cav.

To

Same

Do.

# Return of Indians of Colonel Guy Johnson's Department gone to Plant at Buffalo Creek . . . . . Niagara, May 13th 1781.

| Companies | Nations | Villages | Chiefs | Number | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | Men | Women | Child. | Total |
| Captains Tice | Onondagas | Onondaga | Dignwanda | 92 | 143 | 42 | 277 |
| | dillo | Ganaghsaraqy | Raghslohere | 17 | 17 | 5 | 39 |
| | dillo | Okhininge | Cornelius | 8 | 8 | 4 | 20 |
| | Tuscaroras | Ganaghsaraqy | " | 6 | 11 | 5 | 22 |
| | | | | 123 | 179 | 56 | 358 |
| Brant | Oneidas | Oneida | Skonondo | 16 | 11 | 4 | 31 |
| | Mohucons | Aughquagy | Saon | 15 | 11 | 9 | 35 |
| | Cayugas | Oweguy | Dogs Bruches | 23 | 20 | 18 | 61 |
| | | | | 54 | 42 | 31 | 127 |
| | Cayugas | Cayuga | Sagaaia | 66 | 122 | 124 | 312 |
| Lottridge | dillo | Chughquagy | John Montour | 7 | 18 | 10 | 35 |
| | Poderighronos | " | Pekaraghka | 28 | 48 | 21 | 97 |
| | | | | 101 | 188 | 155 | 444 |
| Nelles | Santkokes | " | Shenos | 57 | 70 | 39 | 166 |
| | Delawares | Shamung | Loaghkas | 41 | 64 | 41 | 146 |
| | dillo | Chughndt | Thomas Decker | 67 | 84 | 37 | 188 |
| | Mohicons | Esopus | Phillip Hoff | 22 | 31 | 12 | 65 |
| | Shawanese | " | Gallego | 16 | 19 | 11 | 46 |
| | | | | 203 | 268 | 140 | 611 |
| | | General Total | | 481 | 677 | 482 | 1,640 |

181

Guy Johnson Colo & Superintendant &c

Extract of a letter from Capt. Aron a Mohawk Chief
Dated Canahara an Indn. Settlement beyond Chenussio
4th. May 1781. wrote by David Aron Brother to Capt. Joseph Aron.

After giving an Acct of the partys Exploits, at
& in the Neighbourhood of Cherry valley by killing
taking Prisoners & burning Houses at the latter
End of April he says

3 The Prisoners give extraordinary
3 good News, they give out for certain, that Forty six
3 of French Ships were taken by our Fleet, and carried
3 into New York, and that it is the Opinion of every one
2 that all is over with the Rebels, the Royal Army
3 being so strong, and that the Kings Troops are
3 now almost in Possession of Mary Land, Virginia
3 & the Carolinas the Country people having
3 joined the Kings Troops as well the Royalists,
2 and Soldiers coming in daily from y Rebel Army
2 on Acct of Distress in y Army. ——
2 Another Acct is brought in by Henry Huff* who just
2 come in after having been taken a 12 Month ago who says

That

* Henry Huff is a Ringer under C. B. Johnson.

That there was an Engagement at Rhode Island in
which the Kings Troops were victorious and
destroyed all the French & other Shipping that were
there, and Huff confirms the News above men-
tioned with many Circumstances.

Signed Aron Canoeraron.
Niagara 10. May 1781.

Extract of a letter from Aron to Ct. Pane chief of the
Mohawks at La Chine. Niagara 10th May 1781.

I received a letter from Capt. Jos. Brant
from Detroit the 3d Inst. wherein he acquaints me
that upon his Arrival a Council was called when
a Message was delivered from some Shawanese
Deputies to the Nations about Detroit, asking
their Assistance in case of an Attack from the
Rebels which they had Reason to apprehend.
The Commanding Officer of Detroit being present
and finding that the Nations at Detroit had deter-
mined to assist the Shawanese gave it as his
Opinion that the Warriors of the different Nations
should rendezvous at Sandusky where the

Chiefs

Hurons lived and he should take care that proper
other Necessaries for the Warriors should be sent
& provided for them at that place; Whereupon
it was resolved that there should be a general
Rendezvous at Sandusky. The Iroquese
Delawares at the same time told in Council that
in case even the Rebels should attack them they
were sure they could not muster up above 2 Thousand Men.
Gen: Brant also writes that Lieut. Came to Detroit
from Sandusky that the Rebels had surprised
a Delaware Town at 12 days March from Fusen-
ragues, and destroy'd it, killing but few of the Indians
escape, altho they had always lived peaceably
among the Rebels before.

Signed John Connerroth

Extract of a Letter from Capt. John Mc Kee to Col. Mills
dated Carleton Isl. 13 May 81

I arrived safe with my party from Cava-
johare where we took 5. & killed 2. & brought them
in here. We salute you all wishing this may find you well.

J

I propose going to Niagara about some public
Business & shall be back in a few days; I beg
you'll give my respectfull Compliments to the
General Asharegoe.

Signed Gl. Oderendiyo

Extract of a letter
from Oswego
Col. Clous

Return of Indians of Genl. Johnsons Department now gone to settle at Buffaloe Creek — May 13th 1781.

Niagara 19th May 1781. —

Sir,

183

I have been honored by your Excellencys Letters of the 11th and 24th ult.o and on the 9th instant I wrote and inclosed a Deed of Cession from the Indians to the King, of the Lands on the west side of this Straits, since which Volunteer Allen of my Department whom I sent out with a party of Iuscaroras last March returned after having burnt Seahouses and Five Mills, & kill'd & taken Ten persons in Sussex county N Jersey bringing off Three Loyalists whose agreable corroboratory intelligence of the success of Lord Cornwallis, General Arnold and was transmitted by Brigadier Powell by the last Vessells and I shall send Allen out again with a small trusty party to obtain farther accounts of the Enemys designs. —

We have had no farther Accounts of moment from Detroit but some Alarms from Kadaragaras which is well covered with Scouting partys, and as the encouraging planting has been considered as an Object of very great importance, I have at length by unwearied endeavors and application sent off above 1500 Souls to carry the same on, followed by three of my officers with as much Corn, Flour &c as was Necessary for the new Settlers, proportioned as nearly as possible to their Wants & Numbers agreable to the inclosed Returns, reserving a Quantity sufficient for those before established who shall appear to be in most need, and accompanying the Whole with the best advice and directions for rendering it most serviceable to them. Thus 3000 Souls (including

His Excellency
General Haldimand &c.

those

those whom I settled last year) are once more put in a
mode of providing for themselves, but they will require
assistance till they can reap the fruits of their cultivation.

Lieut Perrot of the Royal Artillery marked they two
points on this Lake, and on Lake Erie of the late purchase
and I now inclose from one of my Maps a Little Sketch
of the Whole; but I shou'd think it wou'd be advisable
to have the Line run and marked all the way, for the
preventing future disputes, or mistakes respecting the
boundary:— I send another Message by the Shawanese
who accompanied Mr. McKee to this place, and have
Explained to them agreable to Brigadier Powells advice
the State of things here.— That my War parties towards
Ohio, take off many Enemys that wou'd be employed
against them, and that the rest are necessarily employed
at this time in planting, but in case of real necessity wou'd
afford what assistance they could to their Friends." with all
which they were well pleased. This was sufficient as
they did not come to this place with any authority to
demand succours; and the Intelligence repeatedly received
rendering it particularly necessary to Watch the Security
of Kadaragara, and the New Settlements, as a blow there
would be of fatal consequence.—

I have the Honor to be, with great respect,
Sir, Your Excellencys most Obedient,
and faithfull Humble Servant

Johnson

The Majors Name that
went from Fort Stanwix
which you wished to know
is Cochrane.—

1781

From
Colonel Johnson, of
the 19th. May, Recd.
the 6th. June, with
Sundry inclosures. —

25th. June

Cachnawaga May 26th 1701 36

Hearing heard a report this morning that Ratwicome was come into the Village one of the Chiefs that run away from this place in the Fall of 1778, I began to make immediate enquiry and while I was about it Oserangowa came to me and begg'd I would assemble a Counsell and he would tell me some news in presence of the Chiefs of the Village which I immediately did. He began his story by informing us that about an hour ago Ratwicome's wife came to his house and told him that there was a person wanted to speak to him at a small house that is behind the Village, upon his going to the house he found the window shutters shut and Ratwicome there, who bid him he had sent for him as he was the head chief of his Tribe assuring him of the great friendship he had for him and likewise for the Village of Cachnawaga, and begg'd they would consider what they were about before it was too late and change their minds, recounting him of the many messages which had been sent to them and the Seven Nations of Canada upon this Subject, that it was a folly for them to stick out longer the Kings having lost almost every thing in America, New York being burnt nothing being left but the Chimneys standing just like the Suburbs at Quebec, the French troops having possession of it, and but few of the Kings troops Remaining in America. Also there was a Strong French fleet coming into the mouth of the River St. Laurence, he left it to their own good sense to see the situation of the Kings troops and that now was the time to make peace for themselves, that there was an Army of 11,000 men coming by Lake George and another by Colonne, begg'd of them to meet them on

on their knees at Lake George and all would be well yet
them yet, but should he be stubborn and not do it they would
be forced to quit this country and be sent home with the Brit
troops when the Country was conquered. he said he would see
know whether the people still of the same mind by their behavi
as they must not go out upon any more scouts to scalp the Rebe
should they, they would take that for a Signal of their not having
paid any attention to their message. He was very sorry
inform him the 5 Nations behaviour had forced them to come
to a resolution of destroying them entirely, that last year tha
they scourged them a little in hopes that it would open their
eyes, but it had not the desired effect therefore they intended
to march against them about the time of the Indian corn being ripe
& cut them off entirely, that they had every thing they wanted for
the expedition and money enough if it was to last three years
Oseira Jowa asked him had not he a belt of wampum, he said not, c
not signify to bring in a belt as all that had been brought hither
were found out and delivered up to you, immediately upon his
finishing his message he set off with himself to the woods.

I suspect he has been for some days
past concealed about the Village in some of the Houses in the Cor
fields, and have some reason to suspect that he brought letters
with him, which I am afraid has been delivered, if they have
not I may have a chance of getting them. Should any thing
more come to light I shall report it immediately to you.

I am Sir

Your Most Obed.
Humble Servt.

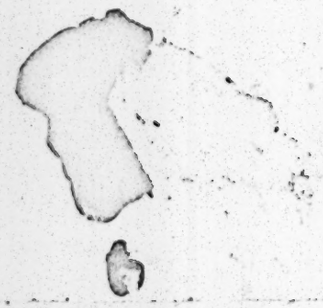
Lieut. Col. Campbell

On His Majesty's Service

Lieut. Col. Campbell

Superintendt. Indn. Affrs.

Montreal



Genl. 1781
Fr. Haldimand &
Lt. Col. Campbell
26th May

A

Copies of Letters from His Excellency Genl. Haldimand
to Brigr. General Maclean Commanding at Niagara &c.

Quebec 31st. October 1782

Sir

I inclose to You a Copy of a Letter I have received a few days ago from Sir Guy Carleton, in Consequence of which, I have ordered the 34th Regiment to proceed immediately to Niagara to re-inforce the Post under Your Command, not that I apprehend the Enemy can attempt any thing against it so late in the Season of the Year - but if the designs mentioned in the Inclosed are really to take place - they will be undertaken early in the Spring - I therefore hope that the Season nor any other Circumstance will prevent the Re-inforcement from Crossing Lake Ontario this Fall, that you may be enabled to forward such a Detachment as shall be necessary to Detroit on the first opening of the Navigation - At this distance, and unacquainted as I must be of all local Circumstances and Events, at the Time it will be necessary to act in Consequence of them, it is impossible for me to suggest measures for the rule of your Conduct - fully perswaded that you will exert every possible Endeavour for the Good of the King's Service - I have only in general, to recommend to You a most vigilant Attention to the Motions of the Enemy, and to the procuring of Intelligence in the Course of the Winter, for which Purpose, intelligent, prudent men must be continually kept abroad with a few well chosen Indians - and these Small Scouts, must have the most positive Orders not to commit any Act of Hostility by which they may be discovered for the late Instructions from Home, as well as the Object of their Pursuit, would in that case be counteracted - The former is, long since, known all over the Continent, and the Enemy are off their Guard, which will facilitate the Introduction into their Country of our Scouts and Messengers - In my last letter I recommended to You the establishing a frequent Communication between the several Posts, it is now still more necessary, for on the Intelligence mutually conveyed in the course of the Winter, will entirely depend the measures to be taken in the Spring.

As the absence of so many Captains of the King's Regt. cannot but be detrimental to the Service, and to the Regiment in particular, I have ordered Captains Lt. Hamilton and Willot to repair to Quarters

where

where they will do duty with the Regiment. The former will be the bearer of this Letter, and will proceed with all possible dispatch – He carries directions to the Officer Commanding at Carleton Island, to exert every Power in forwarding the Reinforcement from thence, and none will be wanting to expedite their arrival there.

Brigadier General Powell having represented to me the great Relief the Traders & Farmers at Niagara would receive from being permitted to draw some Flour from the King's Store until such Time as they have means of grinding their Wheat – You will please to order their Wants to be supplied, and in the mean Time, to receive their Wheat into Store, until it can be ground, when the Quantity issued to them will be replaced.

There is likewise a quantity of Indian Corn raised at Buffalo Creek, said to amount to 2000 Bushels – that, and as much more as you can procure should be purchased, and put into Store.

The very high Price of Rum, and my determination not to purchase any at the Posts makes it necessary I should repeat to you the Injunctions I have so often laid on the several Commanding Officers in the Upper Country, to distribute that Article with a rigid Economy in order, as well to diminish the general Expence, as to prevent a Total want between the Periods of Supplies.

I am &c

F. H.

P.S.

Should You have Occasion to send a Detachment to Detroit, You will please not to send any of the King's Regiment as Swish, as much as possible to collect that Regiment towards this Country.

As the constant resort of Indians to Lt Col. Butler's House must unavoidably subject Him to great Expence in the Article of Provision, You will direct that a reasonable Allowance of Provision, in proportion to this Occasional Expenditure, be made to Him, on that Account – And you will at the same Time be particular in seeing that no extra allowances of that kind be granted to Persons who are not actually entitled to them, and transmit to me a Return of all Persons drawing Rations under that description, the number of Rations so drawn and on what Account.

Lieut. Gen. Maclean
Sir

Head Quarters Quebec 4th February 1783.

I have to acknowledge the Receipt of Your Letter of the 6th November reporting Your arrival at Niagara, & the State in Which you found that Post, and the Accounts at that Time received from Detroit, of the Enemy's intended Incursions, the result has since evinced that Your

I dear

Ideas expressed in that Letter of the Improbability of their Carrying them into Execution, were well founded. —

I am perfectly Satisfied with Your having left Capt. Maclean with the 4th Grenadiers of the 84th Regiment at Niagara agreeably to the Latitude I gave You. —

On the 30th Nov.r I received Your Letters of the 12th & 16th of that Month, acknowledging my Letter of the 31st Oct.r recommending a Constant Intercourse between the Posts in the Course of the Winter, by Means of Indian Expresses, and informing Me that You would take the necessary Steps for that Purpose. I approve much of Your having Entrusted the Detail and Management of the Garrison and Dependencies of Niagara into the Hands of Lt. Col. Dundas, Whose Attention and Activity I am well persuaded Merit Your favorable Report of them; it will besides, enable You to give more of Your Time to the Complicated Duties of Your extensive Command. — It gives Me Pleasure to hear that the Colonel has been so Successful in diminishing the Expenditure of Rum, I request a Continuance of Your Attention to that Object, Which from Habit, has grown into a very great & pernicious Abuse. —

The Expedients You adopted for the preservation of the Provisions remaining at Carleton Island were very Proper, and will I hope, have the desired Effect — I shall give Orders to have a proper Store built upon the Beach for the like Occasions, that the Salt Provisions May not Suffer by being rolled up the Hill. —

The Information You received from John Montour's Prisoners of the Party under General Potter having dispersed, has been Corroborated by other Reports — I persuade My Self you used every Argument to engage Montour to desist from prosecuting his Revenge for the Loss of his Brothers. —

I shall here also acknowledge the Receipt of Your Letters of the 21st & 25th Nov.r which were delivered the 4th and 7th of Decem.r last — The first acknowledging my Letter of the 31st Oct.r covering Copy of a Letter from Sir Guy Carleton giving Intelligence of the Enemys intended Expeditions against the Indians, and reporting the expeditious arrival of Six Companies of the 34th Regim.t, and the Distribution of Quarters You had Made for them — I am Sorry that amongst other Inconveniencies on that Occasion, the Troops should have experienced a Want of Barrack Stores — a Proportion for 650 Men was forwarded with the utmost Expedition upon the 34th Regim.t being Ordered to Niagara, and their Arrival at Carleton Island has been reported to the Barrack Master General, & that I hope they have been forwarded from thence. —

I am Sorry Lieut. Col. Dundas found it Necessary to Make a Purchase

of

of Rum, as it broke thro' my determination on that Head, but I trust it will not again happen, for Should the Stores run Short of that Article, I Should prefer Making the Seamen an adequate allowance in Money. ——

I was Much Concerned & hear by Major De Peyster's & Mr. McKee's Letters & You, the State of the Indians at Standing Stone Village — Circumstanced as they are, it is a most Extraordinary thing that they Should have been So much off their Guard — it will be a Melancholy Caution & them in future — Their Conduct of the Enemy Cannot fail & produce & them the Worst Consequences Whatever Turn the Affairs of this Continent May take, for Should the War Continue it will rivet the Affections of the Indians & Government, and tho' a Peace Should be concluded this Winter, they Will Nevertheless retain their animosity and perpetually harrass the Frontiers with Smale Parties. ——

I am &c. / Signed / Fred: Haldimand.

Brig.r Gen.l Maclean

Head Quarters Quebec 7.th February 1783

Sir!

I have to acknowledge the Receipt of Your Letter of the 16.th Decem.r Communicating the deliberations of the Six Nations in Consequence of the Enemy's late attack upon the Shawenese, and Massacre of the Indians & their Families in Standing Stone Village, and transmitting a Speech of the Principal Chiefs & You in Council at Niagara, with Your answer thereto. — I feel most Sensibly the Sufferings of the Indians, and lament Since the Rebels have So basely taken the advantage of the Humane System of Forbearance Lately adopted by us that it is not in my Power & afford them that Assistance they So reasonably expect and require from Government. — So Situated, it becomes our Duty & use every Means & Conciliate rather than encourage the Retaliation they are now Meditating. I am Sensible how difficult it is & find Arguments & oversett So Just & So natural a Propensity, particularly in a People Who found their Rights, and Even their Existence upon the Principle of Retaliation, and Who Consider themselves, & in fact are a free People, but no Pains must be Spared in So Material a Pursuit. ——

Your answer & their Speech, is So expressive of every Argument in my Power & offer, that I Can have but little & add & it, but as

they

they have made application to You & they, and require my answer, it will be necessary that You Say Something from me in Return — Please then to Salute them for me in the Usual Way, and Acquaint them that I do Sincerely participate, and Condole with them their late misfortune as if they were of my own Flesh and Blood; which in fact, I shall always Consider them While they Continue by their Attachment & Fidelity to their Great Father, mutually to Assist, & Support his and their own Interests — Represent to them the Motives which have been already Assigned for the Suspension of Offensive Measures the last Campaign, and tell them that the great Abuses of the Great King's Clemency & his Wicked and disobedient Children has been equally offended at his Warriors as to them, Wherever they have been off their guard — but that nevertheless we are not to Judge of a Whole Country by the Disposition and Conduct of a few Licentious interested Persons, void of every Principle of Humanity and goodness; and Exiles from the People they belong to, for such are the Inhabitants in General upon the back Settlements, Who infest the Indian Country, and take the advantage of the Present Times to establish themselves in the Valuable Parts of it. — This is Clearly proved by Reports which have been received that the two Expeditions intended against the Posts last Autumn were immediately laid aside on hearing that the Light Troops and Indians were restrained from penetrating into the Enemy's Country. And I have not failed to represent the Infamous Conduct of the Enemy in this last Affair towards the Indians, in such Strong Terms as I am persuaded will prevent any attempt of the Kind hereafter, or Justify these injured People from taking ample Satisfaction in Return — Tell them that as We have hitherto Shared a Common Lot together in defence of our Great Father's Rights & our own happiness, and have Acquired as much Honor & renown throughout the World by Our Humanity to an Enemy so little deserving of it, as by Our Conduct in the Field; I recommend to them, in the Strongest Manner, not to tarnish that Fame by following the base Example of our Enemy, or rather of an abandoned part of them, for there have been Many Instances in the Course of the War where they have Manifested the engaged in a bad Cause, Moderation, Humanity & Tenderness — Let them at least suspend their Just Resentment — until I can inform them of their Great Father's Determination

This

this Winter respecting the War, and until I can hear the Effect my Representation of their Sufferings will have — for the Destruction of a few Old men, Helpless Women & Children with Whom Many of our best Friends must indiscriminately fall, is not a Revenge equal to their Wrongs, or Worthy the Acceptance of a Warlike People — At the same time, tell them they will ever find My Hands loose, & my Arms ready to Support them — in the defence of their Country — My Heart Will on the Same Occasion be Open to Supply their Wants — They Must be Convinced of my Inclination to assist & defend them — for Throughout the last Campaign as many Men as could be Spared from the unavoidable Duties of our Posts were always Sent to their Relief, & they bravely bled and Conquered together — You have lately Seen that on the first Intelligence of the Intended expeditions against them last Fall, late as it was I Sent a Regiment of my best Troops to Support them & assist in driving the Enemy out of their Country They are now within Call of them, and Should the Enemy resume their Intended Invasion you have my Orders, with them, and every other Assistance in Your Power to Support the Indians and defend their Country — At the Same Time, inform them that on their Part, I expect they Will in future be More Vigilant in keeping Out Scouts for Intelligence, & to Watch the Enemy's Motions — Superior Force May Overcome in the Field but Nothing is So disgraceful to Warriors as to be Surprised, and proper Precautions will always prevent it

In Regard to the discontents of the Indians on Account of the Shortness and delay of their Usual Supply of Presents, there are, no doubt among them, as well as other Nations, unthinking & unreasonable People — but there are likewise, Wise and discerning Men Who have been told, and know, that their Great Father's Generosity to them has been Shamefully abused of, to the Private Interests & Advantage of the Traders, Which has Obliged Him to discontinue purchasing Goods as usual at the Posts, and to Send them — Himself from England — The late Arrival of the fleet last Year prevented their being Forwarded at the Usual Time, tho

every

every Care and Dispatch was exerted for that Purpose, Accidents & disappointments must not, & will not, by Wise Men, be Construed into a Want of Inclination. The Goods were purchased in a very Liberal Quantity, they are Actually in this Country, and the Indians will, Sooner or Later, as the Season & Transport will admit, receive them — The Same Misfortune Cannot happen every Year, and I have taken every Precaution in My Power to prevent the Next — Please to let this Matter be fully explained to the Indians from me. I Inform them, in Answer to that Part of their Speech where they Complain of my not having duly answered to their Proposal concerning Fort Pitt, that I did, without Loss of Time, Communicate My Sentiments to Colonel Johnson, & directed Him to make them known to the Indians that upon a Second application from them thro' Lieut. Col. Butler, I transmitted to Him a Copy of My Letter to Colonel Johnson, the Date of which I desire may be Communicated to them by Lieut. Colonel Butler. — I am &c.ª /Signed/ H. H. —

Head Quarters 8.th February 1783

Sir!

In a Letter of the 7.th Instant, I have answered yours of the 10.th December respecting the discontents of the Indians, in the fullest Manner in My Power — I have now to Observe upon the other parts of it, that Your reinstating Lieut. Col. Butler in the direction of the Indian Department has my fullest Approbation, being Consistent with My Express Commands when I found it necessary to Call down Colonel Johnson, and Colonel Butler having from the Beginning, & by the appointment of my Predecessor, executed that Trust with great Credit & Success — and I only Waited the Opportunity of an Express to forward my Directions to You on that Head, finding, that the Management of Indian Affairs had been taken out of his Hands. My Sentiments upon this Matter have been long Since Communicated to the Superintendent General of Indian Affairs — I likewise approve much Your Orders for reducing the Wages of Artificers & Labourers belonging to that Department, & the Rates of Others in the Service at the Posts — In Respect to the Saving You Mention by a Reduction

of

of Appointments in the Indian Department, a general Reform in that Line will So Soon / perhaps by this Opportunity / take Place, that it will not at present be Worth While to Make any Change, but You May be Assured that I Shall at all Times be happy to Promote and approve every Species of Economy in the Public Expences at the Posts and throout my Command. —— Iam &c.a —— / Signed / F. H.

Brig.r Gen.l Maclean

Head Quarters Quebec 9.th Febr.y 1783

Sir!

I have received your Letter of the 23.d Decem.r last, Covering a Copy of one from Major Ross, intimating his Apprehensions of Desertions from the Provincial Troops at Oswego, and his Wishes to have the Garrison More generally Composed of British Soldiers. I feel much Concern at this Information, particularly as the Major's Reasons for Suspicion appear to be too well founded, it will therefore be highly Necessary to guard against this Evil as Soon as the Season favorable for Desertion Shall come on, by ordering a Detachment / composed of Such Men as Major Ross Suspects Most / from Oswego to Niagara, & replacing it with one of Regular Troops from thence. It will likewise be necessary that You Settle in Time with Col. Butler to have an active Party of Indians Constantly at Oswego from the Time the Snow goes off, ready for all Services that Major Ross May have Occasion for it is not unlikely that the Advantage of an early Attempt against against that Post may be taken, even if there is a Prospect of Accommodation, but if the Contrary, it would appear inevitable. —— Iam &c.a ——

(Signed) F. H. ——

Brig.r Gen.l McLean

Head Quarters Quebec 9.th Febr: 1783.

Sir!

I have the Honor to acknowledge the Receipt of Your Letter dated the 26.th Decem.r last, Covering Invoices of Sundry Goods Sent by the Traders at Niagara to the Indian Department, and requesting His Excellency the Commander in Chief to direct that an equal Quantity May be punctually prepared and forwarded to Coteau du Lac for the Purpose of replacing those borrowed, by the earliest Navigation —— Having laid Your Letter

before

before His Excellency, I have received his Commands to transmit the Invoices to the Superintendent General of Indian Affairs, and to Signify his Pleasure that Your Request Shall in every Particular be Complied with, as well to Support Your Credit with the Traders, as to prevent their Suffering by the Readiness they have Shewn in Contributing their Assistance to the Kings Service. —— In Regard to Mr. Brass's Proposals for building the Mills either for £300 New-York Currency, or an Allowance p.r day, I am directed to acquaint You, That at this distance, unacquainted with the Situation, Resources &c &c it is impossible to determine Which is the most eligible to pursue. His Excellency therefore desires you will Consult with Col. Butler, and any other good Judges you may have upon the Spot, and decide accordingly, paying every Attention to Expedition and Economy. —— His Excell.cy further Recommends to Your Particular Notice an unremitting Attention to the Progress of Cultivation so happily begun at Niagara his View being that it Should not only Afford the Troops there a little Assistance of Fresh Provisions & Vegetables, but to furnish in as great a Part as possible the Ordinary Provisions for the Garrison &c by that Means lessen the Transportation from thence, or provide against any Accident that might happen to interrupt it —— His Ex.cy last Fall, desired a Return Should be transmitted to him, describing the Several Farms & Specifying as nearly as Possible the Produce of them in order to perceive the yearly Progress made — Nothing of the Kind having been yet Received, I am directed to Signify to You His Excell.cy desire that you will as Soon as possible Make a Return of the Kind Made out & transmitted by the first good opportunity. —— I am &c——

/Signed/ R. Mathews

Brig.r Gen.l Maclean

Head Quarters Quebec 10.th Feb.y 1783

Sir,

I have Received Your Letter of the 22.d Decem.r last, Communicating your Disappointment at the Return of the Two Companies of the 34.th Regt. and the Indian Presents which had embarked for Detroit. I cannot foresee any bad Consequences from the former, but the Presents Sailing in their Passage Will, I fear, be very distressing to the Service at

Detroit

Detroit, unless the Traders there, Should with the Same readiness of them at Niagara, lend to Major De Peyster a Sufficient Quantity of goods to answer the pressing present necessities of the Indians — in all Events, you will not fail to forward them by the very first Ship in the Spring. —

I approve much your expedient of borrowing Such goods from the Traders as were Absolutely Necessary for the Indians, and not in the Kings Stores — and I have given the Necessary Orders for their being replaced with the punctuality and Precision you Request. In Respect to the Assortment of the last Supply Sent to Niagara, it is very probable that the State of the Stores here, could not at that Time afford a better — indeed almost every Article that remained in it was forwarded — From Your Account of Mr. Chiancour, I Should rather Suppose that he had lost the Invoice, than that the goods had been Sent without one, for my Orders respecting the forwarding of Indian Presents, under the Care of an Officer, and with the utmost attention and Regularity have Always been So particular, that I cannot think Colonel Campbell would be deficient in So essential a Point — I Shall however, give Such Orders as will I hope, in future prevent all Neglects of that Nature — The Report of the Survey You ordered upon these goods Specifies "The Whole of the Indian Presents well Conditioned, "except Three Trunks of Linnen that are Wet — All the Bales of Canvas "Wet, & partly damaged" —

I am Concerned to find that three Companies of the 34th Regiment with the Supply of Bedding were driven back to Carleton Island — I hope the former will arrive with the time enough in the Spring, Should they be Wanted, and that You have been able, as You proposed, to borrow a Sufficiency of Blankets from the Indian Department, which You can replace on the Arrival of the Bedding as the Blankets are of the same Size & Quality.

Your not having heard from Detroit gives every Reason to believe that all is Quiet there, for Major De Peyster could not have failed giving You immediate Notice, had any thing Extraordinary Occurd. but as the Season of the Year is at hand when Preparations must be Made if the Enemy Intend to prosecute Offensive Measures against the Indians, it will be of the last Consequence that, not

only

only Major De Peyster should keep out intelligent & Well directed Scouts & procure every Information possible of their Designs & Motions, but that Small Parties of the Six Nations Should be Sent for the same Purpose, and it would be Right & Send an Indian Officer or intelligent Non-commissioned Officer with each & prevent the Impositions Indians Seldom fail & make in their Reports, for upon Your having early and authentic Intelligence every thing will depend, Should You be obliged & oppose the Enemy, and if otherwise, much Expence will be Saved in unnecessarily sitting out War Parties upon false Alarms & Reports — Should the Enemy force us to take the field in the Spring, it must be recommended in the Strongest Manner to the Indians, & act More Conjunctly than We have ever been able to persuade them to do — Wavering & breaking off in Small Parties as they have always done after any trifling Success, will never have any Material Effect against their Invaders; the three last Campaigns have furnished different Instances in Which opportunities Were lost by that Conduct, of entirely defeating Wm. Clarke, & discouraging their followers from any future attempts against the Indian Country — The Indians Seem either not to know their own Strength, or by a fatality, to act in Such Manner as to render it ineffectual — Their first attention Should be to procure authentic Intelligence, So as to be able, upon Short Notice, to Collect a Body of Warriors equal to oppose the Force they expect to be attacked by; I do not Mean equal in Numbers, for they ought to know that the advantages they have from their Manner of fighting, choice of ground &c. over an Enemy Coming into their Country, Should enable a very Small Body of them to oppose almost any Numbers — They Must be Strongly United and Determined to Support each other, not to drop off by Three's & four's after taking a Scalp or Two — in Short, if they Mean to defend their Country vigorously & with Success, they Must in Some Measure adopt our Systems and be advised by Officers of Knowledge & Experience Who May be Sent to Conduct them. — I am &c

(Signed) F. H.

P. S. — as there is every Reason to think that the Attendance of all Officers & Servants of the Crown in every Department will be necessary with their respective Duties the ensuing Spring — you Will please not to give Permission to any in the District of Your Command to leave them without the most pressing Necessity should require it. —

/ Signed / F. Ha. —

Brig.r Gen.l Maclean

Head Quarters Quebec 18.th February 1783. —

Sir!

I have to acknowledge the Receipt of Your Letter of the 19.th Inst.r, covering a Memorial and Copies of Letters from Lord North and Mr. Townall; all Which, I have Perused with attention, and After giving every Consideration to the former, I am Sorry to acquaint You that it does not appear to Me that I can, with any Degree of Propriety, take upon me to decide in a Matter of such Consequence Which, notwithstanding the Instances You Quote in the Southern Army, in My Opinion, belongs only to his Majesty. —

I Sincerly Regret the Disappointment You experienced in Mr. Mc. Lebs Pension and I Still hope that, notwithstanding the Change Which occasioned it, Your Claims acknowledged by Lord North will be Considered Sufficient Motives for accomplishing His Intention, or for procuring to You some Equivalent Mark of the Royal favor.

I am &c — / Signed / F. H. —

Brigad.r General Maclean

Head Quarters Quebec 11.th March 1783

Sir

Your Dispatch was delivered to me the 7.th Instant — in Which I have to acknowledge Your Letter of the 2.d Febr.y — Covering an Extract of one from Capt.n Grant respecting Sailors & Marines for the Armament upon Lake Erie — Nothing Can be done in this Matter at present, but I purpose Supplying Lake Erie from Lake Ontario, and replacing the Latter by an Early Supply from hence. —

I am pleased to find that the Preparations for the Mills are in Such forwardness, and Care Shall be taken to forward the Iron Work as Soon as the Navigation opens — in Regard to the Wages of the Artificers employed in that Work, I observed to You in my last Dispatch that you Must be directed by good Judges upon the Spot — I have therefore only to add that the Wages demanded, as mentioned in Your Letter, by Squarriers are, incredibly higher than any given by Capt.n Swiss & Persons in the Kings Service.

I Shall

I Shall endeavour to find a Proper Person in the Commissary Line to Succeed Mr. Wilson whom I by no Means Wish You to obtain longer than until he Can be relieved — In the Mean Time You will have an Eye to his Conduct. —

From the Observations of the Scouts Sent to Tioga & Wioming, & the two Small Parties Sent by Col. Butler to penetrate to near New York I hope you will obtain authentic Intelligence of the Enemy's Motions & Designs, and Scouts for the same Purpose towards Fort Pitt will ensure an Early Knowledge of What Passes on that Frontier — Your Just Observation that there are annual Alarms of the Enemy's approach in those Quarters will Continue as long as Presents are given to Indians — All We Can do is to be as little as possible the Dupes of them, by Mixing intelligent, honest White Men With Indians on all Our Scouts for Intelligence as well for the Purpose of obtaining early Notice of Incursions by the Enemy, as to prevent false Alarms. ——

In Order to prevent the Wants Complained of by Your Surgeons, be so good as to Transmit to Head Quarters their Several Demands, & I Shall take Care they Shall be as punctually as possible Supplied but direct that these Demands be Made Out With Careful Attention to their real Necessities only —— If fresh Beef Can be Procured so reasonably as you Imagine, I Shall have no Objection to Your Ordering when the Situation of Your Hospitals Shall really require it a Necessary Quantity to be delivered — The Amazing Expence of the Article of Fresh Provisions at Detroit has long been a Matter of Concern & Surprise to me, and tho' I hear it is owing to the Consumption of Indians, & a desire to Economise the Salt Provision I Will think these Purposes greatly Exceeded — I pray you to Make particular Inquiry into the Nature of the Issues at Detroit, & from Whence the great difference of Expence in fresh Provisions between that Post & Niagara arises, & Communicate to me the Information You Shall receive thereon — I am &c ——

(Signed) F. H. ——

Major De Peyster Will in the Spring send down some artificers & Painters who have been employed as such. — Wishing to Complete

the

the Works at Carleton Island, & please Order that they may be detained there until reported to me. ——— Major Ross has of Course reported to You the Late attempt of a Rebel Detachment under Colonel Willet to Surprise Oswego — The Secrecy & Dispatch with which they performed their March shews the necessity of Observing the Most unremitting attention & Vigilance at all advanced Posts — The Alertness of Major Ross & his Garrison being entirely unacquainted with the Enemys design, does them Much Honor & is an Example Worthy the Imitation of all our Frontier Posts.

F. H. ———

Brig.r Gen.l Maclean

Head Quarters Quebec 11th March 1783

Sir, I am happy to find by the Copy of Major De Peysters Letter transmitted in Yours of the 3d Febry, that the Rebels have retired from the Indian Country without having effected any Considerable Injury to them: but I do not perfectly understand by their last Accounts Whether the affair in Which Ten Indians were Killed & a Trader Plundered, is a fresh Outrage of the Enemy, or the former One at Standing Stone Village misrepresented by the Indians as a general Massacre of all Sexes & Ages Which, by their Resolves in Council they are determined to Revenge. ———

I entirely approve of Your Resolution in Consiquence of Major De Peysters Letter / not to send him any Reinforcement until he shall demand it, which he will always have it in his Power to do from the Information of his Scouts.

Your Indulging the Indians with a Detachment on the Late Alarm was very Judicious, and I am glad it had the desired Effect — These People in their present disheartened, & Suspicious disposition require to be Managed with great attention, and Much Indulgence Should be had for a People who, upon the Whole, have behaved With great Attachment to Government, and Who by that Attachment have a very unpromising Prospect before them

Your information respecting the Large Quantity of bad Pork in Store at Niagara is very Distressing — The first thing to be resolved is to Remedy the Evil as much, & as Soon, as possible; in Which I Observe with much Pleasure, You were Occupied When Your Letter was written, and I have every Dependence on Your attention & Your Material Zeal — Your Proposal of ordering the Troops

&

to receive their full Allowance of Pork is highly necessary, & if you have not yet done it, please upon Receipt of this to Carry it into Execution — I do not wish the Troops should Receive damaged Provisions, but I have known Instances where Condemnation has been Made very improperly, & where, with a little Trouble, Pork rejected, & actually Condemned, has been found perfectly good, by having the Rusty & bad Part carefully Cut off, & the Remainder Issued to the Troops — by this Means it may be in Your Power to lessen the Evil in a great Degree. The Quantity You Mention to have been left in Store in the Space of one Month amounts to Nearly a Third of the Ration — I wish to know why What Reserve the Troops could relinquish so large a part of their Provisions, and What Nourishment they substituted in the Room of it — This Knowledge May, in Case of Necessity, be useful ——— I have received your Letter of the 6th. February acknowledging Mine of the 4th. Inst. Each and covering a Memorial from Lieut. Tinbrook of Lieut. Col. Butlers Rangers, upon the Subject of which, I have directed the Adjt. General to write to You ——— I am &c ——— (Signed) F. H. ———

Brig.r Gen.l Maclean

Head Quarters Quebec 11.th March 1783

Sir:

I have had the Honor to lay before His Excellency the Commander in Chief Your Letter of the 28.th January Covering an Account of Mr. Stedman for Rum & other Articles furnished to Indians on their Route to & from Niagara, and Communicating yours & Col. Butlers Sentiments upon the Impropriety of the Indians receiving Supplies on Government Account from Private Persons particularly Where there is a Post established and recommending that that Custom should be discontinued, a favorable Opportunity now offering While Capt.n Fraser is Stationed at the Block House, Who might be supplied With a Reasonable Quantity of Rum from the Kings Store & give Occasionally to Chiefs as they Pass — I am directed to acquaint You that His Excellency perfectly Agrees with You in Opinion, and is pleased to direct that You will give Orders to Mr. Stedman not to furnish any Rum or other Articles whatever to Indians on the Public Account in future — Care must At the same Time be taken to inform the Indians, that they

are

are not to expect any from him, Otherwise they will attribute the Change & a Want of Hospitality in Him, and Pillage Him upon all Occasions. — While His Excellency is desirous that the Officer Commanding at the Block house Should have a certain Latitude in giving Rum or Bread & Indians that May be in Want of the latter on their Way to Niagara, he is at the same time Pleased & direct that, as Capt: Arbuthnot must be Succeeded by Officers of less Experience in the Management of Indians, the Quantities and Occasions upon Which these Articles are to be given, Should be Limitted & pointed Out — for as Parties Should never halt there above a Night and always receive their Supplies for their Journies at Niagara, they Should not be accustomed & Receive any thing at the Block House on that Account but perhaps a Dram Merely to Support a Friendly Intercourse. If this is once broke thro', they Will halt half Way between Niagara & the Block-House until they have expended their Supply, & then demand a fresh One at the Block House — This was frequently the Case in Mr. John Stedman's Time. —— I am &c. —— Signed R. Mathews

Brig. Gen.l Maclean

Head Quarters Quebec 11th March 1783.

Sir,

I have had the Honor & Receive & lay before His Ex.y the Comm.r in Chief Your Letters of the 28th Jan.y & 5th February Covering an Estimate of Deficiencies in the Issues of Indian Presents between the 1st Oct.r & 30th Nov.r 1782 and a Small Acc.t of Issues reducing the amount of the Estimate a few Pounds. I am directed & Signify to You His Excellency's fullest Approbation of Your having so Minutely investigated that Matter, and of the Steps You have taken & prevent the like Abuses, or to Judge in the most favorable sense of neglects, in future. — It is with much Concern that His Excellency perceives so unpardonable a Remissness in those Who have the direction of that Department, notwithstanding the Instructions that have been so repeatedly given Commanding their attention, and at a Time when the recent abuses of Traders & inferior Officers should awaken every Exertion & Intrigue & Counteract them — That Issues to the amount of above £1000 Sterl.g should be permitted & be made by any Storekeeper Whatever, must Less a Boy of 18 Years old, in the Course of a Month, without Written Orders as Vouchers for Them, is incomprehensible in His Excellencys Idea, Connected with the least Zeal for, or attention to the Interest of the Public.

His

70

His Excellency hopes the Persons You have Appointed to Act as Issuers & Indian Commissary will faithfully fulfil their Trusts, He is pleased to direct that they may Continue to act under the New arrangement in that Department Mackinack & Detroit. ——— I have the Honor &c &c Signed R Mathews

Brigr. General Maclean

Head Quarters Quebec 12th March 1783. ——

Sir,

I have been honored with Your Letter of the 28th January Covering two Invoices of Indian Goods sent by Messrs. Crosthwaite & Street / the addition & those formerly Transmitted / to the Indian Department at Niagara Having laid these before His Excellcy the Commander in Chief, I have & Signify to You that he has Commanded Me to Transmit them immediately to Sir J. Johnson with His directions & have the goods packed up & forwarded to Him in the Same Manner as the former agreable to the particulars of Your Request upon that Subject, which I shall punctually Obey ——— I have the Honor &c &c Signed R Mathews

Brigr. General Maclean

Private

Head Quarters Quebec 21st Aprile 1783 ——

Sir.

Altho' I wrote to You lately, I cannot let so good an Opportunity as the present, escape me of letting You know that I have not yet received the least Official Intelligence from any Quarter Whatever concerning the present interesting Crisis in public Affairs. But I think it right to acquaint You that I have advice from a private Correspondent from the Colonies that a Peace is Certainly concluded Between Great Britain and America a Copy of the Terms have been Received at Philadelphia ——— If they are such as are reported to me, they Materially affect this Province as they fix the Boundary Between us from the Line 45. & thro the St Laurence some Where below Lake Ontario, & run thro the Midle of that Lake, Niagara River, Lake Erie, & so on thro Lake Superior ——— The Effect this Intelligence will have upon the Indians, if it is true, & that they are not considered in the Treaty of Peace, Can be easily Conceived, and I will require every attention & exertion in Yours and the Power of Col: Butler very Privately to take Measures & give Such Turns for the Savages What they have very Prudently, that at the Ex[pected] Arrived [illegible]

In

War must expect to be heavily reproached by them. I hope from the representation I have never failed to Make of their Service and attachment to Government that I shall receive some Instructions concerning them that May, in some Measure reconcile them to their Stroke — in the Meantime, it will be highly Necessary that You keep a Watchful Eye upon their Conduct, without discovering any Distrust of them, and that you guard against a possibility of their being Tempted to take their revenge upon any small Post or Detachment as they did at the Close of the last War — In Regard to presents & Provisions, no apparent Diminution or Change must take place until Instructions for that Purpose shall be transmitted to You —

Upon the Plan of reducing the immense expence of the Indian Department so strongly recommended from Home, Orders were sent by the Inspector and Superintendent General to Lieut. Col. Mathews to discontinue from last March such officers as could at present be spared without Injury to the Service, having approved of the same, it will of Course take Place, & I hope ere long, a further Diminution of Appointments proposed by Sir John Johnson, some of the District Volunteers are included as been paid upon the List of the Indian Department — Altho' I approve of that Measure, it is not my intention that Capt: La Mothe, & those who are still indispensably necessary to the Service, unless belonging to the Indian Department should be at present discontinued — You will therefore direct Major De Peyster to subsist them as usual, drawing upon Me for the Amount — The Private Men, Volunteers, paid at so high a Rate and now totally unnecessary will of Course be discontinued. —

The Communication with the Upper Country being now open, I shall expect to hear from you upon all Occasions the least Interesting —

James — / Signed / Frd. Haldimand

Brigad.r Gen.l Maclean

Head Quarters Quebec 12.th April 1783

Sir

From a Representation of the Merch.ts trading to the Upper Country that a great Quantity of Goods remain since last Year at Carleton Island, and upon the Carrying Place at Niagara, and finding upon inquiry of the Commissary General that the Posts are not in any pressing Want of Provisions — I have permitted that the King's Vessels should be employed on both Lakes, the first Trip in Carrying Merchandize. You will please therefore to give the necessary orders for that Purpose on Lake Erie, & have done; I have instructed Major Hatrin & the same purpose, provided he has not received any orders from You in Consequence of Circumstances on Lake [illegible] that may make it inconsistant with the King's Service. — I am &c —

Signed / Frd: Haldimand

72

Brigad. Genl. Maclean

Head Quarters Quebec 26th April 1783.

Private

Sir.

By Order of His Excellency the Commander in Chief I have the Honor to transmit to You the inclosed Abstract of Sundries said to be issued from Colonel Johnsons Quarters at Niagara to Indians and Prisoners between the 25th June 1780 and 24th Sept. 1781 — Which the Colonel has laid before His Excellency requesting it may be considered in the General Settlement of his Accounts — The extravagant extent of this Demand, as well as the Quality of many of the Articles, never before issued to Indians, together with the Stile in which Col. Johnsons Accounts have been found, induced His Excellency to desire that You will, in Conjunction with Col. Butler inquire as minutely as Circumstances will admit, into the Merits of these wonderful Charges — one would almost Suspect that the Whole Consumption of the Post in the Course of 15 Months, could not amount to the Sum charged — particularly the Articles of Wine, Tea, Sugar & Soap — but it is utterly impossible that Such amazing Issues could have been Made without the Knowledge of Col. Butler and the principal Officers of the Department, at Niagara, and the Principal Chiefs — His Excellency does not wish that this Inquiry should be pursued as made Secretly, it will therefore, of course, be the less perfect, but Col. Butler alone will be able to Satisfy You in regard to the establishment Fact, whether or not, those Amazing Issues were in the Time Mentioned or ever, Made at Niagara, how, and from whom, such an Amazing Assortment of Private Stores could have been procured — It may not be amiss also to Shew at St Joseph, that he may be convinced Government does not pay out all the Expence of the Indian Department without some Cause — When £10,000 is Charged in the Course of 15 Months at one Post for Private Issues to Indians, exclusive of Presents and Provisions, the Sight of this Account will astonish You, and Col. Butler particularly who I believe I may venture to assure in the Whole course of his Indian Administration (at least While I was at Niagara) never gave in any Charge Whatever of the Kind. I am &c

Signed R. M. —

Brig. Genl. Maclean

Head Quarters Quebec 26th April 1783 —

Private

Sir,

Yesterday Your Dispatches were delivered to me, but in the Hurry I am in at present, I cannot possibly do more than acknowledge them — The inclosed Letter [illegible]

of a Peace, and I am Sorry to acquaint You that the Boundaries are But too 135
Justly described in My Letter /Private/ of the 21st Inst. — I Shall, if possible, avoid
promulgating them in Hopes of receiving from England Some Conciliatory Instructions
Concerning the Six Nations and our other Indian Allies, of Whom I cannot learn
that there has been the least Mention Made in the Provisional Articles —
This, it is too probable will Soon reach their Knowledge, and the Precautions
Suggested in My last will be the More Necessary. I await with the utmost
Anxiety for Dispatches from England, on this, and the Public Affairs relating to this
Province, of Which, I have not had the least Intimation from New York —
I recommend in the Mean time in the Strongest Terms, to pay Your closest
Attention to the Management, and to the Conduct of the Indians — I shall
not Lose a Minute in Communicating to You Whatever I may Receive on this
Subject — I have written to this Effect to Major Ross, as well for his Speedy
Information, as in Account of the Indians — I am &c — /Signed/ F. H. —

Head Quarters Quebec 26th April 1783.

Brig.r Gen.l Maclean

Sir

Having last Night received from New York His Majesty's Proclamation
for a Cessation of Arms with all the Powers with Whom we late at War, in
consequence of preliminary Articles having been Signed at Paris on the 30th of
Nov.r last for treating of Peace — I have to desire that you Will, upon
Receipt of this, Totally Cease from carrying on the Fortifications,
and all Public Works Whatever at the Post you command until You
Shall receive further Order — and that you Will, Without Loss of Time,
give orders for a discontinuance of the Same at Detroit, and all the Posts
in the District of Your Command — You Will likewise discontinue the
Transport of His Majesty's Stores & Provisions to the Upper Posts, Indian
Presents excepted — I am &c — (Signed) F. H.

Head Quarters Quebec May 22d 1783.

Brig.r Gen.l Maclean

Sir

In daily Expectation of Arrivals from England communicating
something of Essential to transmit to you respecting the Posts in the Upper
Country, I have delayed acknowledging the Receipt of your last Dispatches.
But as some Merchant Ships are arrived and that I have received early
Dispatches, the none relating to affairs in the Upper Country, I no longer
defer writing to relieve you from the anxiety, you must naturally be in to
hear from me.

My Letter from the Corps I Intended for Detroit

carry

being dated the Day on which the change of Ministry took place, and all Mili-
tary arrangements having been delayed until that change should happen
nothing upon the Subject of these important concerns could have been effected,
But there is no doubt the Affairs of this Province has been one of the first objects of
Consideration, and that no Time will be lost in Communicating to me His Majes-
Commands thereon.

I shall now refer to your several Letters, and all the unsettled Terms of Peace answers to the Subjects of them in part immediately at present, I wish to observe upon and communicate to You my wishes respecting such of them as may be at all useful to the Service, or Satisfactory to You.

The Requisitions for the Quarter Master General and Engineers Departments contained in your Letter of the 13th April, until further Accounts are received from home, will not of course be complied with.

Your Letters of the 22nd & 27th April with their Inclos-
I have perused and your Instructions to Major Ross in Consequence of them were
very properly suitable to the Situation of Public Affairs.

Your Letter of the 20th April has fully explained to
me the Affair at Standing Stone Village, and altho it was a most unwarrantable
Cruelty in the Rebels, it falls very far short of what it was at first represented
to be by the Indians. These matters should never be exaggerated, as they only
tend to deceive, and when discovered, never fail to recoil, and give occasion to
dislike real Facts which may be the case in this very Instance, as I commu-
nicated it to the Kings Ministers in the Terms it was reported to me.

It gives me pleasure to find by the answer of the
Six Nations to my last Speech, that it was so satisfactory to them, and that
notwithstanding their mortifying disappointment in the Terms of Peace, they
have given such Promises and marks of Approbation. It will afford me
infinite Satisfaction to be enabled by the Receipt of my Dispatches to Commu-
nicate to them some amendment or alteration of the Articles, which at first
appear so unfavorable to them — The Murder of the Delaware Indian give me
much concern. The suspected Perpetration will be regularly tried, and shall
assuredly suffer whatever Punishment the Law shall condemn him to receive,
and that upon the Spot where the Offence was committed, as requested by the Indians.

The Negotiation for the Compensation of the damaged
Provisions, previous to the Receipt of my Letter signified in yours of the 24th April, are
very satisfactory to me, and I am pleased they have been so effectual. Your Ideas
upon the Subject of purposed Stores at Carleton Island for the better preservation of
Provisions is very just, and with all others that can tend to the good of the Service
will be very acceptable to me. I desired to you my intention of building

Stores

Stores at Carleton Island for that purpose this Season, but they will now be unnecessary.

I am Sir, &c. (Signed) Fred: Haldimand

Head Quarters Quebec 23d May 1783

Brigr Genl Maclean

Sir

I am glad to find by your Letter of the 9th Instant & the Proceedings of Captain Brant & Powell that the Indians notwithstanding the Peace manifested so strongly a Continuance of their Attachment to Government, on the late Alarm — I flatter myself we shall still be able to preserve their affections and to convince them, that however necessary it has been for their Nation to conclude this distructive War, and to separate herself from the Colonies it has never been the Intention to abandon them, nor withdraw from them the Royal Care and Protection of the Crown, as long as any part of the Country remains in our possession. To convince them of this, I have determined (without waiting for Instructions from Home) to send up Major Holland immediately to Catarâqui to examine the North Side of Lake Ontario with a view to settle such of the Six Nations as will prefer that Situation to the risk of being subjected to the power of the States by returning to their former Habitations. I have proposed and discussed the matter at large with Joseph Brant, and it is with much pleasure I find that he readily comes into it. He will accompany Major Holland to Catarâqui and from thence to Niâgara; In Consequence of the uneasiness you represent there is for the presence of Sir John Johnson, I have ordered him to Niagara immediately to quiet the apprehensions of the Indians, until some Arrangement can be fixed upon for their future Settlement, and I flatter myself that, from his Influence and good management and the Assistance you will, in every matter wherein you are concerned afford him, this will not be found so difficult to accomplish as it has appeared to be in the first moments of disappointment and despair — As Major Hollands Report may not entirely answer my sanguine & Speculations, do not mention this Plan until you hear further from me, or until it shall be thought advisable that the Superintendant General should do it. You will then recommend it as strongly as possible from me — Major Harris will have Orders to furnish men & such other Assistance at Catarâqui as shall be necessary for any work Major Holland shall from his Observations find expedient immediately to begin

I am &c Sign'd F Haldimand

Brigr Genl Powell.

Quebec 24th June 1783

Sir.

Having long but in vain attempted to restrain within moderate limits the expences incurred at the several Posts in the Upper Country in the Indian Department, I have at length been able to accomplish an Effort which I hope will have a good effect; It is to supply by importation from England or purchasing

purchasing here the necessary supplies of Indian presents, saving by the latter mea-
provided for the present wants of Niagara, Detroit and Michilimackinac, agreeably
to the last Estimates transmitted to me from thence, I have thought fit to
prohibit future purchases to be made upon any account whatever — You will
be governed by receiving my orders upon this Subject which you will please without de-
lay to give Public and transmit to the several Commanding Officers, and I must
desire that for the more effectual execution of them, you will inform yourself
of all Arrangements that shall be made in consequence thereof, and give such
Orders or Advice as you shall think most conducive thereto — The sums expended
in this Department collectively Amounting to a considerable part of the
National Expence, and the services performed by it, being so very inadequate
thereto, cannot fail of attracting the serious observation of the King's Ministers
and consequently demand the most unremitting attention of every Officer concerned
to any Part of so great Importance.

I am Sir &c.

(Signed) Frederic Haldimand.

Sir,

As it appears now essentially necessary for the good of the Service from the uncommon Success of Affairs to the Southward that I should immediately return to that Quarter. I must first beg leave to give you a State of my Situation. On the commencement of the present War it was rendered impracticable for me to receive from you such Instructions as to enable me fully to execute the Office of Deputy Agent, tho' notwithstanding I have continued to promote his Majesty's Indian Interests as far as in my Power but rather in the capacity of a Person only desirous of promoting the Kings Service. Oh the same time flattering myself that you would on your return from England be invested with sufficient Authorities to arrange the Department on so respectable a Footing as would be some Security to the Officers of it thro' the vicissitudes of War, and in some measure protect them

Col. Johnson

them from the hazzle of the Enemy who neglect no opportunity of
annoying the outmost regions against Indian Affairs has
been determined some trying circumstances of this kind shew
the more anxious for a regulation to take place. Therefore in
justice to myself can not help wishing that after Twenty three
years Service I could be fortunate enough to meet with a
suitable Provision. I must also inform you of a Scheme I
was early made acquainted with of raising two Battalions in
the Neighbourhood of Fort Pitt by General Gage & Lord Dunmore
who did me the Honor of painting me to the Command of one
of them, but unfortunately the persons entrusted with the directions
for pursuing it fell into the hands of the Enemy which frustrated
the execution of the design however it occasioned me to have duly
considered the trouble and expence, and if thro' His Excellency
General Haldimand the Commander in Chief favour any
settlement of this matter can be obtained consistant with the
honouring me with some certain Rank or Appointment shall thankfully
receive, & shall esteem your friendship and advice
a singular favour and in the mean time
remain

must request your particular directions for the regulation of my Conduct. — I am with great respect

Sir

Your most Obedient Humble Servant

Niagara
June 1st 1781

Colonel Johnson

To Col. Johnson from
Mr. McKee D Agent

(Copy)

187

Quebec 17th June 1781

Sir

I have received your Letter of the 23d April covering a Return of War Parties sent out towards Short Hill, Schenectady, Susquehanna &c and reporting the Return of others from the Frontiers, with the particulars of their Scouts — The Report brought in by them of the Enemies Intentions to cut off the New Indian Settlements & establish a Post at Tioga, do not much correspond with those daily received here, of the universal distress, discontents and Inability of the Enemy to undertake any Movements alarming to the Posts or Indian Country — The utmost Vigilance is nevertheless to be continued upon the Frontiers.

The Reasons you give for preferring the New Settlement upon Buffaloe Creek, to that first proposed at Chemussis appear well founded, and I would have that most encouraged which best answers the purposes of the Service, particularly when most advantageous to the Indians, which from the goodness of Soil, you represent the former to be, and the farther they can be removed from our Forts the better.

I am Sir &c

Signed Fred: Haldemand

Colonel Johnson

Copy

Quebec 9th July 1781

202

Dear Sir

I am Commanded by His Excellency General Haldimand to acquaint You that He has Received your Letter of the 5th Inst., and that the Spirited Resolution of the Mohawk Indians gives him much Pleasure — He heartily wishes success and will cheerfully accept the Service they offer, provided they undertake it with a determination to execute it faithfully, and not to be influenced by an ill-placed tenderness for the Rebels who have so often forfeited every Claim to their friendship and Forbearance, and have shewn all their treachery by shutting up the communication & attempting it, with Force — The General desires You will take great Pains to open the Eyes of the Mohawks to the Conduct of these Rebels, and the Absurdity of keeping Terms with People who take every Means to distress them, and he further desires that whenever this Service shall be put in Execution, You will not permit any Man to go upon it except in that Conviction, and Resolved to act accordingly — The General awaits the Answer of a Letter from Sir John Johnson, & gives You a Final one upon this Subject,

and

and Desire You will take such measures
in the Mean time, as to enable Brigadier
& move on the shortest notice, without
delaying any Operation & them
I am with great Esteem &c
(Signed) P. Bathurst

(Copy) 1781

To Col. Claus —

of 9th July. —

(Copy)

Quebec 16th July 1781

217

Sir

I have received your Letter of the 12th Inst and am much surprised at its Contents — considering the immence Sums lavished yearly upon the Indians in this Province, is it not discouraging that there is so little Confidence to be put in them! — that they are so void of gratitude and attachment to the Interest by which they are nourished and supported — It is impossible the Rebel Indians could have been so long in the Country without the assistance of the Villages I am informed He has taken the young Men, and as it is likely that those young men would have accompanied him without the Consent of some of the Chiefs who now pretend Ignorance and attribute their going, to the Folly of youth.

I must desire that you immediately assemble the Indians in their several Villages, or in such manner as you shall think the most formal & likely to have effect. Acquainting them that their Conduct in this affair has incurred my highest displeasure, represent to them in the strongest Terms the Sense I have of their Ingratitude, and my Determination, if they persist in it, to abandon them entirely, and to leave to the Rebels, whose Emissaries they encourage, to supply their wants and those of their Families — If they had behaved like faithful affectionate Children to that Father by whose bountiful hand they exist, they would have seized the runaways who have abandoned them and their Interests for that of the Rebels, and who

Lieut Colo Campbell

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presume to return amongst them for the purpose of Poison-
-ing their minds and Ears with Falsehoods & dissention
instead of that they meet them in Friendship, Council
with them, and even permit them to carry off some of
their young People — The Chiefs are not to pretend Ig-
-norance of their Transaction, or supinely to smoke their
Pipes while they are carried on — They are answerable
for the Conduct of their People, they must carefully
watch over their Actions, and prevent such as are
productive of Evil Consequences to their Father or
themselves — If they meant to do their Duty they would
not wait for the Departure of these Miscreants to
report to them to you, but would diligently search
them out, discover their Business, and like honest
faithful Children bring them before you to answer
for their Conduct, for which I shall look to the Chiefs
and not to the Young men, I approve much (and this
will be a good occasion) of the House belonging to the
Rebel Indian who came in last being pulled down,
and if he has any Family let them be warned to be
in Readiness to return with the Flag men in the
Morning — You will see what effect this is likely
to have, and acquaint me with it previous to the
execution thereof, as I wish to avoid proceeding to
Extremities, should they be attended with the least
bad Consequences, or if the Service can be carried on
without, from these Circumstances happening in the
Indian Villages unknown to the Missionaries,

but

but particularly to the Officers residing there for the purpose of watching over the Conduct of the Indians, it would appear either that they are inattentive to their duty, or that they want address and cleverness in forming such Connections amongst the Indians as would procure them a knowledge of every the most minute Circumstance that happens in their Village, to which a perfect acquaintance of the Character of the Indians, and, as much as possible of their Language, the utmost attention should be paid, being infinitely of more Consequence, than their Service in the Field, where Courage and Personal Activity suits all men

I now a fording I must desire you will strictly press and enforce a proper Sense of this essential part of Duty in the Officers of your Department, and keep them all constantly employed in the Several Villages the Missionaries should likewise be talked to upon it, it will come with great Propriety from you, who have the direction of Indian Affairs, and who are supposed to be responsible for their Conduct, and in doing it, you may make such use of my name, as you shall find necessary.

I am Sir &c

Signed Fred: Haldimand

(Copy)

No. 21

To

Lieut Colo Campbell

at Montreal. — 15 July

Montreal 19th. July 1781

Sir

I Received your Excellency's. Letter of the 16.th Instant, communicating your intentions of employing a few Indians of Canada against the Oniada Indians, and desiring to know if twenty men can be got, on the Shortest Notice for this Service.—

I have the Honor to Assure your Excellency, that the whole of the Indians of Canada continue to be in the best disposition possable for His Majesties cause, / a very few excepted / but that I cannot Answer for their disposition to Act Agt. the Oniada's, as I have not yet Sounded them on that Subject; but Tuesday first I will be able to form my Opinion, which I will transmitt by the next post; as I have desired the Chiefs, and principall Warriors of each Village, to meet me at Cachnawaga on that day, to Speak to them on the Business contained in your Excellency's other Letter of the 16th. Instant. and Engage them to Declare War against the Oniada's.—

His Excellcy
Generale Haldimand

I am convinced it Will have very good effect, and that it will not be Attended with any bad consequences, the Pulling Down of the Rebell Indians House who has made a practice of going backwards and forwards between the Rebell Country and this province

Therefore I Request that your Excellency will be pleased to give your orders that I may be Supplied, with the Number of men I may Require to Effect the Same.-

I would Avoid going to extreamities, if it was possable to carry on the Service without it, But it has been so often told publickly in the Village, that this man's house, and those of the others in the Rebell Interest, would be pulled Down and their family's Sent out of the province, without either having Happend as yet; that the good Subjects are exceedingly Angry at it, and Sometimes tell me that I am Afraid to make good my words; and the Rebells hardend in their treacherous Practices.-

I have the Honor to be with great Respect

Sir

your Excellencys most Ob.d and most Humb.e Serv.t

John Campbell

Lt. Colo

His Excellency

General Haldimand

&c &c &c

C. A 1781

From

Lieut. Col. Campbell

of the 19th July. Rec. 21st

1(Copy)

Quebec 19th July 1781

219

Sir

I have had the Honor to lay your Letter of the 16th Instant, communicating the Return of the 3d Party of Indians of Caghnewaga and the result of their Scout, before His Excellency the Commander in Chief, and I am directed to signify to you His approbation of their Conduct in that Affair, which he desires you will take an Opportunity of communicating to the Village, acquainting them of the Pleasure which every Proof of their attachment to their Father, and of their attention to themselves in support of their Character as Warriors & faithful Children will always give him — His Excellency hopes this is a Specimen of the Conduct they mean upon all future occasions to adopt, and that it is not in the Field alone he is to expect proofs of their Fidelity and Attachment — He strongly recommends to their attention the Subject of his last Letter and desires they will discourage in each other whatever Conduct may draw upon them his Censure, and oblige him to withdraw from them that Protection, it is his wish to afford them, & he hopes they will merit.

The General desires the two Indians may remain in Confinement, and that you will use such means as you shall think best to procure from them the knowledge of the Persons

Lieut Colo Campbell

concerned

concerned with them, and by whose advice, or
Concurrence they ventured to Undertake an Action
so hurtful to their Reputation and Interest
a candid avowal of which, can alone extenuate
their Crime, and restore them to the General
favor.

I am Sir &c
Signed J. R. Mathews

(Copy) 21

To
Lieut Col Campbell.
at Montreal 19 July

Montreal the 23d July 74 1781

Sir

I have the honor herewith to transmitt to you the Declaration of the two Ind.n Prisoners taken yesterday By my Desire, which you will please to Lay Before his Excellency General Haldimand, and Depose that I Believe it to be the truth, and that no white person had any part in Engaging them to undertake the Journey they had Set out upon

They are Both good Boys in the Main, Particularly Tiny's Son, he came in Lately from the German Flatts, when Capta Robertson Had Sent him with some others, and Brought some prisoners

They have Been kept in the Black hole ever since their Capta Mathews confinement

Confinement and Chained to =
= gether. So that I think they are
now pritty well punished for their
Folly.

Therefore If his Excel:
lency has no Objection I wish to
them at Liberty, when the Chiefs
of the tribes they Belong to with
ask their forgiveness, promise
for their good behaviour for the
time to come, and the rest of the
Ceremony Practis'd on Such
occasions gone through

I have the honor to be with
great Regard

Sir

your most Obedient &
most humble Servt

John Campbell
Lt Colo

To

Capt. Mathews &c

N. B.

oratos.con { Is the Ind^n who has been diff^t. rent times with the Rebels

those four he had any conference with are in the Rebel interest

The Letter they went to Carry was to the young man you wrote me about Last year who speaks English well and was Bred at Dartmouth Colledge, Inviteing him by his aunt to Come home, a Bad Lad his Father Daillebout is a Faithful Chief as any we have, he has given up his son Long ago

I Campbell

1781.

From
Lieut. Col. Campbell
23d July—Rec. 25th

Montreal the 30th July 1781

Sir

Please to acquaint his Excellency General Haldiman that the party of Indians as described in his Letter to me of the 16th Inst. will be ready when called upon, But I would be glade to have as early Intimation as possible of the Day they shall be wanted, that I may have time to call for a proportion from St Regis and the Lake of the two Mountains, to prevent those villages Being Jealous, that those of Caughnawage alone be called upon —

I have the honor to be with great Regard.

Sir.

Your most Obt and most humble Servant

John Campbell
Lt Col

To
Captn Mathews
Head Quarters Quebec

6/ From [illegible] 1781.

Lieut. Col. Campbell

30th July – Rec.d 31st

Montreal the 9th August 1790

Sir

The Indians with Captn Robertson have apply'd to me in the strongest terms for a Reinforcement of Warriors as speedily as possible to assist them to revenge the death of a Chief, and a number of St Regis who were lately killed on a scout on the Mohawk River, Please to inform his Excellency General Haldimand of this, and let me know by the first opportunity his pleasure Regarding their Demand

You may assure his Excellency that the whole of the Canadian Indians are in the Best Disposition possible

Captn Mathews &c &c

Execute his commands and
am frequently applying to me
for Leave to go to war.

I have the honor to be
with Esteem and Regard

Sir
your most Obt and
most humble Servt
Thos Gamble

Sir

Capt. Mathews &c
Headquarters
Quebec

Room — 1781.

Lieut. Col. Campbell

15 — 2 — Rec. 2 15

9. Aug — Rec. 11.

Albany August 9th. 1761

Sir

I have the honor to inclose your Excellency an original Letter from Mr. James Dean, Interpreter to the Board of Commissioners for Indian Affairs in the northern Department, the minds of Savages (in which wrong or injured situation, seem the [illegible] ordering of it not the only Impediment, by which they Joyned their endeavours are so incapable of effecting the ends which might be obtained, to convince the impropriety of such a Measure as they seem to request of Congress. Nor I did not conceive or suppose it necessary; but I believe, if Congress did interfere, it would be by a resolution, very generally worded, that attention should be paid to the safety of the Indians, and friendly Intercourse

and readily give them for any forces, whenever Congress shall be pleased to order it.

Mr Harris has advised me that the money I have engaged to pay for construction of batteries at this place will be, in a very short time, ready to enable me to comply with my engagements.

All the industry of carpenters, and other mechanics, employed in the public service, seems to have depreciated, as well as the paper currency, yet on this occasion I must say that the workmen met my best expectations, and that the construction of the batteries amounts to only the usual price of such works.

The State not having sufficient sum in readiness to reimburse me the advance I made for erecting the batteries, I wish it may be consistent for Congress to give directions to pay me in the mode stated in the act of the legislature,

May it Please your Excellency to
transmit Congress in Board Lark

I am
Sir with great respect
Your Excellency's
most Obedient
Humble Servant
Ph. Schuyler

His Excellency Thomas Mc Kean Esq.

Letter. Gen[l] P. Schuyler
Aug[t] 9. 1781
Read 17[th].
Referred what relates to money
to the Superint. Finance
What relates to the Legislatures
Indians to M[r] Deane
& M[r] Livermore
& M[r] Jones —

569

Schenectady July 30th 1781

Sir,

The Indians who are here from Canada inform me that the Inhabitants of Caghnawage, since the Retreat of the American Army from that Country, have, in general, been entirely deprived of their Share of the presents Annually arriving from their Seigniory, & like &c, which have been wholly engrossed by a few of their people who are zealously attached to the British Interest: While the rest of the Inhabitants, for no other Crime but their pacific disposition & their Wishes to maintain, as far as possible, that neutrality so frequently recommended to them by the Honble Commissioners of Indian affairs, are deprived of their rights & equally entitled to the Incomes arising from their Lands &c — The Chiefs therefore of the injured party, considering the Injustice which has been done them & the flagrant violation of their property, purpose sending an Embassy to Caghnawage, to apply to the Honble Commissioners for Indian affairs on that subject, & to beg them to procure, under the Signature & proper Authority some certain Instrument whereby our friends may, in their turn, whenever the situation of our affairs shall admit, deprive those British Tools of their Share in the common Estate, who are now so fond of engrossing the whole in to their own hands — Shaghnaghtie the Bearer of this Letter, therefore now agreeably to his Instructions

570 Instructions in the name & behalf of our friends at Coghnawage, beg leave to address the Honble Commissioners on the Subject — Hope they will be pleased, as soon as may be, such Instruments as above mentioned to be provided in this Province, which may be sufficient for the above purpose, to be made use of whenever the Times will admit — Our friends in Coghnawage beg the Commissioners not to neglect a request which to them appears so perfectly reasonable; And those of that nation who are here think it the least Compensation that can be expected for their voluntary Exile from their Country & their unmerited endeavors to promote the Interests of the United States among their Countrymen —

I am Sir

Your most Obedient

& humble Servant

James Dean Agent

for Indian affairs

The Honble

Ph: Schuyler Esqr

Brothers Oneidas, Tuscaroras and Onohoagas

Sept. 13, 1781.

SCHUYLER PAPERS.

We who now speak to you are part of the great Council of the United States and the Board of War. We speak in the name of the United States in Congress assembled and by their Authority.

Open your Ears and hear.

The Great Council of the United States who are always mindful of their friends to distinguish for the common good, did you welcome to their Council fire. They hope that after so long a journey you enjoy your health.

Brothers. The Great Council are highly sensible of your friendship and fidelity. They remember the advice they gave you to remain Neuter, and smoke your pipes in peace. They did not wish you to shed your Blood in an quarrel with the King of England and his people. The cruel ravages of our Enemies have drawn you into the war for untill you and your Country was attacked we did not advise you to take up the Hatchet. You have in all things behaved

yourselves like Men, who love your Fa=
=thers and regard your engagements.

Brothers.

We are sorry that the Enemy have been able
to destroy your Villages at Oneida and that
your safety hath made it necessary for you
to remain. We hope the time is not dis=
=tant when we shall amply avenge your
injuries, and you will be restored to the
peaceable enjoyments of your lands.
For we have our difficulties, our Enemys
are not without many and great distresses.
We have powerful Allies. They have now,
but on the contrary many of the greatest
Nations on the Earth have combined against
their insolence on the Ocean and all the
World are looking with pleasure on the
successes of the Americans and their Allies, which
daily humble the pride by reducing the power
of Britain. Our Warriors are in Arms from
the North to the South. Our great and good
ally the King of France, has sent to our
Aid a large number of his ships and
Warriors, and with the blessing of the Al=
=mighty Ruler of the Universe we trust to
compel our Enemys to submit, or to fly
beyond the great waters for shelter.

Brothers The great Armies we have now in the field
call for large supplies of Money and provision
and along War has impoverished us: but
cannot therefore do every thing for our faithful
friends which we wish. But you may be
assured that you shall share with us. and
we shall give directions, that you may
hereafter be better supplied with provision
and necessaries. You are Men and Warriors
and know that hardships are incidental
to War. But be of good comfort: We suffer
with you. Let us all bear our share of
distress with patience and fortitude, and
trust that God will bless our joint endea-
vours and bring our righteous cause to
a speedy and glorious issue.

At this period when we have the strongest
reason to believe it is not far distant, Peace
with justice must in our confidence and esteem
who have been the most constant in their
friendship towards us. The faithful Oneidas
Tuscaroras and Tuhunnagas with them
ought in the good consequences of their
Attachment to us, and gain over and gain
Friendship, when they share in the blessings of

of our prosperity, with thank the great Spirit for inspiring you with so much Wisdom, Virtue and fortitude, as you have evinced by the temporary distress you have suffered in our Cause.

Brothers We approve of your returning to your family and protecting them and assisting your Brethren there, in fighting manfully against our common Enemy: and we heartily wish you a good Journey. Our Board of War who are now present, with give all further directions, for your accommodation & Return, for we have recommended you to their care and attentions.

Brothers The Board of War unite with Propriety to our Commissioners for certain Affairs for the Northern department. where you reside, & we are assured they will do all in their Power for your protection and comfort.

War Office Sept. 13th. 1781

The above is a true copy of a Speech delivered to the Sachems of the Oneidas Tuscaroras & Tuscaroways who were present at a Conference at Philadelphia, held with them by a Committee of Congress & the United States and the Board of War this day.

Richard Peters
By order

Intelligence received from
Colonel Johnson.
Virginia Sept 18th 1781.

Niagara 18th Sept. 1781

Sir,

226

Since my last which was of the 30th ult.o I have received agreable intelligence from several Indian partys, and some are returned; The first of which was Capt Caldwells with Capt Lottridge and part of the Indians who burnt the Settlement of Wayne's Tree and brought in two Prisoners, but not being well acquainted with that part of the Country, which was their original destination, they could not proceed farther, however part of the Indians left them at that time & proceeded to other places in four different Partys, from three of which I have heard; one brought in two prisoners, another a Scalp, a Third under Otstatajo an Onondaga took 7 Prisoners, and one Scalp at Cobus kill and releared 3 Women, bringing off above 20 head of Cattle with many Sheep & some Horses, The other party with Capt Sherop is still out, but the most material intelligence will be transmitted by Brig.r Powell respecting the Success of the Indians on Ohio with Capt Brant who fell upon a part of Clarks Troops killed 37. Took 64 in the former of which was the Command.g Officer, & in the latter a Major & several Officers, and as M.r M.cKee has now Joyned, & they are become.g about 700.

His Excellency
General Haldimand.

They

they will probably defeat Mr. Clarks intentions who by the Papers taken seems to be but poorly Supported.— The Brigadier will likewise transmit to your Excellency the Succes of Lieut. Clements of my Department who with 74 Indians with Deiagwanda of Onondaga, killed 22 Rebels including 3 Officers, and is returning with 8 Prisoners, Capt. Woodward one of the Killed was among the most enterprizing Partizans on the frontiers and he with Capt. M.Kean killed lately by Lieut. Dachstedders party have been long wished for by my Officers and Indians.—

The Prisoners all agree in saying that the frontiers are drained of Troops to reinforce Washington, and that he with the French Auxiliaries have been defeated lately at the White plains near New York.—

Several of the Seneca Chiefs arrived here Yesterday, and have had a Meeting with me respecting what was lately communicated to them about Provisions, Liquor &c. they admit that by the care that has been taken, their Crops are in general, (particularly those of the Senecas) are large and promising, but that many Tribes have either not made so good a use of their Grain, or are less acquainted with the means of helping themselves, and for which they are Solicitous, but when I can meet the Chiefs of the different Villages, which must be soon, I hope to make these matters more easy, and likewise to get several Prisoners out of their Lands.— In my last I mentioned that I had reduced the Indians on the Ground to less than a Thousand, from Four, but it is to be understood that Many parties will be constantly going backwards and forwards, and many events may happen that may bring in large bodies of them, which will occasion an Additional

Consumption

consumption of provisions, and which my utmost efforts cannot prevent, tho' they shall not be wanting.— It is indeed a great deal to get so many Indians to settle at a distance, and to relinquish promises made them long since, That in case of accident by War they shou'd be maintained: or to overcome the habit contracted by their living long here on Kings Provision, without planting. So that the quantity of provisions necessary cannot be estimated from the Number on the ground, altho' the fixing so many on planting grounds brings them much nearer their old Establishment before Sullivans invasion when their nearest Settlement was above 90 miles and their farthest 250 miles from hence, and consequently few were here, in general except when they were called upon, and the Issue of Provisions, as well as the Ammount of Expences must have been much less.—

Mr. M.Kee requested that I shou'd take an opportunity to lay the inclosed Letter before your Excellency representing his Situation, which I humbly presume to recommend as he is a deserving Officer.— I have settled his Accot. which are paid and will be shortly transmitted, and I have the Honor to be, with much respect, Sir,

Your Excellencys most Obedient
and most Humble Servant

G Johnson

1781.

from

Col.o W.m Johnson

18.th Sept.r Rec.d 29.th

Wm. M.c Kee.

Niagara 19th Sept.r 1781. -

Sir,

I take the Liberty to transmit to your Excellency herewith The Accot. of Indian Expences & Disbursements at Carleton Island to the time of my Officers return from thence last June, -- Also the Accot of Expences & Disbursements at Detroit & to the Southward with Mr. McKee for the Amot. of which Accots I have now presumes to draw Seperate Bills on your Excellency of this date. -- They have been long since Settled, but not made up 'till now, thro' a Mistake of the Traders Carrying an Accot. to the Island that shou'd have remained here. -

I have the Honor to be
with much respect, Sir,
Your Excellency's most Obed.t
and most Humble Servt.

G Johnson

His Excellency
Genrial Haldimand &c.

Present
Maj. F. Bigelow Commanding Officer
Capt. Capt. F. Mc Dermott Adjutant
Capt. Capt. Geo. Jones Paymaster
Lieut. Lieut. Geo. Jones Quartermaster

Father Thos. Smith — 14 P.M.

Father: My subject this afternoon will be upon the Relief Fund and I am sure that I do not have to say much to you in order to convince you of the necessity of such a fund. Many of you have been in the habit of contributing to the Relief Fund and I am sure that you will be glad to know that the fund is in a healthy condition. Many of you have been in the habit of contributing to the Relief Fund and I am sure that you will be glad to know that the fund is in a healthy condition.

a Consequence of Speeches from the Western Nations Delivered
to Sir Jn.o by the Onondagans the Chiefs of the Six Nations Warrs.
Gen.l Haldimand as follows — 92

Brother We have been a long time at War with the
People of this Island in Behalf of the Kingour Father
and have met with some loss tho most of our loss has been
at Fort Pitt We beg you will assist us in Destroying it
You know we cannot take Forts without Guns but you have
Great guns & Shells which will soon Destroy it and give
an Opportunity to bury the Bones of our Friends which lay
in Piles about it in hopes that you will Grant our Request
we shall immediately send to the Different Nations of our
Friends that they may be Ready in the Morning or Spring
for we long to meet us as well as to our Western Brethren
makes us the Six Nation earnestly Join in this Request
as it has been very Troublesome as well as Preventing the
Delawars from being with one mind of us we mean them
living Near it —

Niagara 16th Novemr. 1781 —

152:4.
121:
273:4
20
20
313:4

25
96
121

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100 80 1/2 10
40 32 24
32 3 4

1676 10 0

(Copy)

Niagara. 16th Nov: 1781.

105

Speech delivered by two Onond.a Hurons from Detroit in answer to that from Lt.Col.o Johnson & the Six Nations, with a Gen.l Speech from them which he is requested to forward to the Commander in Chief

Brothers,

We have a Message from our Western Brothers the Shawanese & Hurons &c.a

Father & Elder Brothers, we return you our most sincere thanks for the timely assistance you gave us in sending some of your White Children and some of our Brothers the Six Nations to our assistance.

Three Strings

Father & Brothers,

We received a Message from you by Hayatta we were then very busy in collecting our young men in order to meet the Virginians Bee who were then coming into our Country this was the reason you did not then receive answer, we hope you will not be displeased on think we slighted your friendly and Brotherly advice, We have communicated your advice to the whole of our Confederates who are very happy, and thankfull for the attention you pay them, and have followed your advice, and shew you it has had a good effect in making us more united and determined then we were heretofore.

We cannot at this time answer the whole of your Message as the Belts & Strings that accompanied it are sent to the most distant part of our Confederates, but early in the Spring you may expect it, and dont doubt but it will meet a favorable reception

A large black Belt

Father

Father & Brothers,

Capt.n Brant sent for us and asked us if we were not desirous of having Fort Pitt destroyed, and if we were, we should apply to the King our Father & the Six Nations. — The Shawanese answered that they were much obliged to him, and that it would make them very happy if the Six Nations would join them in petitioning the King their Father in this speech which is as follows. —

The Six Nations, Hurons, Shawanese &c. address the following speech to His Excellency Gen.l Haldimand.

Father,

We have been a long time at war with the people of this Island, in behalf of the King our Father, and have met with some loss, the most of our loss has been at Fort Pitt, we beg you will assist us in destroying it — you know we cannot take Forts with our guns, but you have great Guns & Shells, which will soon destroy it, and give us an opportunity to bury the bones of our friends which lies in piles about it, in hopes that you will grant our request we shall immediately send to the different Nations of our Friends, that they may be ready in the morning (or Spring) — This Fort being so near us, as well as to our Western Brethren, make us the Six Nations earnestly join with them in this request, as it has been very troublesome to us, as well as the preventing the Delawares from being of one mind with us, we mean them living near it. —

The Huron Speech addressed to Col.o Johnson and the Six Nations. —

Father

Brethren, 106

You some time a go recommended it to us to shake our Nephews the Delawares by the head (meaning those in the Rebel Interest) we hope you will now be easy in your mind, we went for that purpose to their Village, and desired them to quit the Rebels & join their Uncles & Brethren, which they refused by saying they were Christians and did not chuse to leave their Minister, we then took them prisoners and brought them off with us, they seem very well pleased with their present Situation, there was seven Men, and about thirty Women & Children in the Fort, those are all that are left.

A Bunch of Wampum

1781

Copy

To Lt. Col. Butler

of the 2d Regt. —

Niagara Dec.r 9th 1781

Dear Sir

On Capt. Johnson's departure for Canada I agreeable to His Excellency's directions, took upon me the Care & management of the Indian Department — & after taking an Inventory of the goods remaining in the Indian Store, before Capt. Parke, and Major Sheene, and having wanted my necessaries for the same; I found that there were several Articles wanting, that would be absolutely necessary to satisfy the Indians, & Equip them in the usual manner — I laid a state of the matter before Brig.r General Powell, in hopes that he would have order'd a small Supply to be got from the Merchants; But I believe it was out of his

Capt. Chatham

Power

power, as his Excellency the Commander in Chief has
positively forbid that any should be purchased from
them for the use of the Indians on account of Government
This I was perfectly acquainted with, and nothing
but the exigency of the Service, could have induced me
to make the application — Gen.l Powell has consented
to have some coarse Cloths that are in the Store, &
of little use to Indians, exchanged for other things that
we are more in want of for that purpose, but that will not by any
means be sufficient — I have therefore enclosed a
List of the Articles that we are principally in want of
We have also to mention, that we have a quantity of Powder, and
a promise of some more, which I hope will enable me
to satisfy them in that Article, We expect to have
a Talk with them in the Spring —

The Trifling quantity of
Indian Corn I could procure for present Families of Indians

I am

for Islands, they give no reason for coming in to be
settled under protection of this Garrison, but declare
if they had got plenty of seed last Spring that they would
have been able to maintain themselves abundantly for the
Winter — The Chief part of the Brandagos are already
coming in, and so many of different Nations will
follow their example — In order as much as
possible to prevent it — I have recommended hunting
to them instead of going to war, but know very well that
this would not be pleasing to them in general —
I have advised them to keep out small parties
that the Enemy might not surprize them unawares.
I enclose you a letter from Doctor Carr Surgeon
to the 2nd Battn. for Sir John Johnson Bart. by the Deputy
Genl. Beadle, and should be glad to know
his Excellency's pleasure relative to it —

an

allowance of this kind has been customary on similar occasions — The families I mentioned ~~[illegible]~~ to you in my letter of the 2d Oct. are arrived but they add in no manner to the consumption of the provisions of the Garrison, as there is none allowed to any of the farmers, or to the Canada families, except two women to a Company — They got a passage from some person at Machiche to Montreal, where they procured one to this place from the Commanding Officer — The Winter being so moderate ~~[illegible]~~ has enables the farmers, to clear the ground and to prepare it for planting and sowing early in the Spring. If they only begin to cultivate the land in dammed the season is over before they can reap the Harvest any subsistence from their labour — I flatter myself that in a short time the Farmers will be

be found to be of essential use to this Post - They have maintained themselves since Sept.r last and have only allowed half Rations from the beginning - You will please to mention to His Excellency, that the Rangers are not allowed any Gratuities for Praetorians, the utility of which to a Corps is needless to enlarge upon to you - The number of Recruits that have lately joined make this requisition still more necessary.

I hope that the conduct of the part of the Corps that has been lately on Service has met with His Excellency's approbation - I remain Dear Sir

Your Most Obed.t &
Most Humble Servant
John Watts

P.S. The last particulars wanting for the Indians which I have ordered in the Cod.y Letter - I am sent to Col.o Johnson ——

From M 1781.

Coll Johnson

10 lb Powder 2 lb

10 Ball — Rec. 13.

Montreal 20th Decr 1781.

271

Sir,

I was lately honor'd with your Excellencys Letter of the 10th Decr in answer to my report respecting the late expedition under the Command of Major Rogers, and Lieutenant Brecknell arrived a Packquet from Niagara with Letters and Reports from Lt Colo Butler &ca among which is a Speech from the Indians which I have the Honor to inclose; and which Speech the Indians "desire in a most "earnest manner, that I will assist in getting their request "therein complied with, which will make them very happy."

Lt Colo Butler has likewise represented to me the difficulties he meets with for want of many Articles of Goods &ca of which I thought it best to inclose an Extract to your Excellcy as I find here that the Goods intended could not be got up in time. — I mentioned in a Letter long since the State and Quality of the Linnen sent up, and what the Indians said about it; but I lament that the Urgency of my coming down so suddenly on the receipt of my Orders rendered it impossible to arrange there, and many other matters, as fully, as the Case required, however I sent two faithfull Chiefs, & Officers to make them as easy as possible till a better opportunity should offer. — As to the Expedition they propose against Fort Pitt, I am inclined to think favorably of it, If it can be suddenly and Secretly carried on at the proper Season. The Indians have more than once mentioned it to me, and the Garrison has been generally represented Weak & Mutinous

His Excellency
General Haldimand &c

and

the Works out of repair. It would therefore seem that such a place might easily fall by a Coup de Main, for in case of any delay, the Neighbouring bounty of Westmoreland and Garrisons kept there might be brought in a few days to its relief. but these considerations as well as the Utility of the Object must be entirely submitted to your Excellency whose Commands I should be proud to execute in that Country, hoping to be honor'd with your Answer on the Indians application. — Sayengaraghta mentioned in the Extract herewith, who was greatly noticed for his services at the Commencement of the Rebellion, is a Thoughtfull Man, who looks forward to the future State of the Indians and one that must be fixed with Success, as well as with favors to keep his Zealalives, I am glad to find that neither himself or people appear to have heard the disagreable reports that have circulated here, to which I give no Credit. —

I have lately, as well as by Letter this day, received Sevl Drafts, and Accounts respecting Contingencies & Disbursements for my Department, and more may be soon expected, which induces me to request to be honor'd with your Excellencys Warrant for One, or Two thousand pounds as mentioned in a former Letter, to support Credit. —

The Suits against Messrs Taylor & Forsyth is drawing to a Conclusion, but the decision of the Judge will I am told require some time, It has in its consequences subjected me to much Loss and Expence without taking Notice of any other Considerations, I have already said much upon it, and when the last September Accots went down I spoke

of

of the Ballances, as it was done in consequence of my Conversation with Brigadier Lowell, their dealings with Government being ended by Order, and the Ballance struck that appeared to be due in which I was assisted by Capt. Parke, and acted to the best of my Judgment & Capacity It was utterly impossible for me to be more exact without Neglecting Objects of the Greatest public Concern and I am very able to prove that whatever idea is entertained of their conduct I was more particular and Methodical than was usual in most Offices of that Nature and that however deficient in knowledge of what Law or Customs of Merchants might require, I took sufficient care that Government should not Lose or be imposed on to its disadvantage. —

An Asthmatic complaint occasioned by severe cold and Wet does not permit me to add more on the Subject of Affairs on the Frontiers by this Opportunity, but hoping to receive your Excellencys Answer for my better guidance I remain with real Truth and respect,

Sir,
Your Excellencys most
Obedient, and Most
Humble Servant
G Johnson

From [illegible] 1781.

Gov.r Johnson
20.th Dec.r Rec.d 25.th
enclosing Letter
from L.t Butler &
Speech relative to
Fort Pitt

Extract from Lieut. Colo. Butlers Letter, Recvd by Colo. Johnson 20th Decemr. 1781.

I am sorry to inform you, that the Goods in the Indian store are by no means sufficient to Cloth the Indians, I have Cloathed two thousand four hundred and forty one and not a yard of Linen left for the rest. two Trunks that were delivered me supposed to be full of Linen, the one contained Tobes, and the other Callico the latter was a lucky mistake as there was none in the store, the Callico shirts are Chiefly damaged, you may easily judge the difficulty of pleasing Indians. I have exchanged some of the Coarse Cloth for Linen, but that is but a trifle to what I want.

Sawengaraghta or Smoke some days ago asked me for a Gold laced Hat and good Coat which he said you promised him. On my telling him it was not in my power to give him either, but that I would give him any thing that was in the Store in lieu, his answer was that if the King was grown so poor, and not able to purchase a Hat for him he would do it himself, which he accordingly did, and made his brag of it. I imagine I shall have many such haughty Speeches this Winter, however I shall do all in my power to satisfy them.

From [illegible] 1781.

Gov.r Pownall

20.th Dec.r Rec.d 25.th

enclosing Letter

from Lt.t Barbier &

French relative to

Fort Pitt

Extract from Lieut. Colo. Butlers Letter, Inclosed by
Colo. Johnson 20th Decemr. 1781. —

273

I am sorry to inform you, that the Goods in the Indian store are by no means sufficient to Cloth the Indians, I have — Cloathed five thousand four hundred and forty one, and not a piece of Linnen left, for the last two Drafts that were delivered me, which ought to be half of Linen, the one containd Tobacco, and the other Callico the latter was a lucky mistake as there was none in the Store, the Callico Shirts are — Chiefly damaged, you may easily judge the difficulty of pleasing Indians. I have exchanged some of the coarse Cloth for Linen, but that is but a trifle to what I — want. —

Saumgeraghta or Smoake came days ago and demanded a Gold laced Hat and good Coat which he said Sir John promised him. On my telling him it was not in my power to give him either, but that I would give him any thing that was in the Store in lieu, his answer was that if the Virginia was grown too poor, and not able to purchase a Hat for him he would do it himself, which he accordingly did, and made his bragadit. I imagine I shall have many such braggadocios this Winter, however I shall do all in my power to satisfy them — —

Extract of Lt Colbusten
Letter to Colo Johnson
rec.d by him Dec.r 20.th 1781

Daniel Claus Esq.r was born
the 13th Sept.r 1727. at Bennigna
a Town near the Imperial free
City Heilbron the property of
Count Hadrian of Stein the
Protestant Lutheran over which his dece
Father Adam Frederic has presi
he was descended from an antient
Family in Transylvania and
who are said to be the founders
of the principal Towns
of that princi
cipality, but the Reformatio
early
spreading to that Country they
adopted Doct.r Luthers Doctrin
and a Persecution ag.st its Ad
herents soon after taking place
together with the Ravages of War
the Turks in their Inroads
so much under

Colonel Chilla

his

Memoirs of Descent &

how he came to America

with a concise Rest of his

Adventures

& Services.

~~Thus~~ that the
were obliged to quit their
Estate. with was afterwards confiscated
And took Refuge in the
Imperial free City Ulm where
Protestantism was more
tolerated And their Descen-
dants still were esteemed and
countenanced at the Imperial
Court and employed both in
civil & Military Stations, As
appears by the Diploma granted
them not long after, with much
former Distinction honoring
them to carry the Imperial En-
signs of the Lion & Eagle Wings
together with the {Gules & Sable} Colors
~~B. the Brothers with the Leaders~~ The
~~of the Protestant Party and by~~

the Imperial Uniforms, such Diploma & Laces, Father had in Possession as the surviving elder Male Branch of s. Family and together with a Genealogical Tree of the Family that later he left in [illegible] among his relations many taking a Copy of the Diploma authenticated by an Imperial Notary Public, and copied & translated it himself upon parchment & had the Arms done as nearly after the Copy of the Original as he could in this Country until it may be better executed in London & registered in the Heralds Office.

2dly. Laces coming to America

in Decemr 1749. was occa-
sioned by a Person making
his Appearance in the part of
the Countrey where he lived
& arriving from America to
visit his Relations he being a
Clergymans Son in the Dukedom
of Wirtemberg, Mr Claus be-
came acquainted with him
found him in all outward
Appearance a Genteel
a clever sensible
Man who could tell his Story
extraordinary well, of being con-
cerned with a respectable House
in the Virginia Trade who meant
to establish a House
upon the Skins for Holland
for the Sake of Cheapness Trade having
this Commodities (manufactured
in

that part of Germany on acct of the
Cheapness of Labour, And in that
convinced people unacquainted
with those Matters of the most plau-
sible prospect of Success and Ad-
vantage, offering Mr Claus a Share,
that the same time buying up
Quantities of Stock & Utensils for
and agreeing for the Building of
Silk Manufactories entering even
a rich German Nobleman to carry
on said Buildings ~~Leaving~~ the chief Management
of carrying on the work in Germany
and Mr Claus was to go with him to
America as being of a proper Age
to acquire the English Language
& get acquainted with that Trade
Accordingly arriving in Philadelphia in
Autumn 1749. he to his disagreeable
Surprize

7

Surprize found himself convinced
of what he suspected all along on
the passage at Sea of being
quite deceived & imposed upon by
that person & luckily secured as
much Cash as to bring him back
to Germany again, but as there were
no Vessels going for England in
Spring 1750. Mr Claus proposed
& partly agreed for a passage in
an Italian Ships in the meap
while accidentally meeting
with a Mr. Weiser Indian Agent
for the Provinces of Pennsilvania Mary
Land & Virginia to the Six Nations,
who was going that Spring to meet
Deputies of the 6 Nations at Trondeq
about some Land & other Matters con-
cerning said Provinces; Mr Weiser
offered him to take Mr Claus as a
Com-

Companion and introduced him to the Natives of America & shew him the Curiosities &c. of their Country with which he was well acquainted with; Read Mr Claus readily accepted the Offer and set out with Col. Weiser from his House in Berks County in May 1750. and proceeding by the Settlements of Bethlehem & Nazareth in Jersyla to the Meniffinges & Esopus then crossing Hudsons River to Rheinbeck, Camp, Livingston Manner to Albany from thence to Schoharee where Mr Weiser first lived & learnd the Mohawk Language his father having been one of the first Settlers sent over by Queen Ann. from thence he proceed to Fort Hunter where Mr Claus saw the first large Settlem.t of Ind.s they counted themselves 250. or 300. Warr.s from thence

to

9
is Col.° afterwd.° Sr Wm Johnson
who was then finishing his Seat
on the Mohk.° River of a large
Stone House with two Wings
afterwards in the War 1755. called
Fort Johnson having been joined
with Stone walls by way of
Ramparts & made defensible
ag.st small Arms &c.° From
thence they proceeded to Stone-
arabia, Canaj.e Klems Falls
the old Habitants of which
places were Acquaintances &
Relations of Co.° Weisers being de-
scendants of those Germans sent
to America by Her late Maj.y Queen
Ann and shewed the Travellers every Friend-
ship & kindness in their power
At the last Settlement they hired a Ma
& horse to carry some Refreshments
thro' the Bad Country but Col.° Weiser
ac-

according to ye Indian Hospitality wch he was no Stranger to, Elderly Stayed with the people of the House he put up at whenever he took a Meal; and their Arriving at Onondago they found the Indians in great Mourning on Acct of their Head Sachem Canaghsadey being dead a few days before by Poison which was suspected to have been conveyed into his Victuals by some French Emissaries that then resided at Onondago Lake under the Disguise of Traders debauching the 6. Nations to the French Interest and inviting them to Engagachy wth Settlements the Abbé Picquet was then forming after the peace of 1748. in order to draw over the 6. Nations by large

presents

presents & fine Speeches, and rather succeeded too well on the Lethargy & Carelessness of the Indian Commissioners at Albany who entirely neglected their Affairs in that Time of Peace notwithstanding w.t this good Indian Canassadego kept firm to the British Interest rejecting every Artifice by Presents &c. from the Enemy to be Bribed, and w.t the Indians suspected occasioned his Death for these French Emissaries had been tampering with him to no purpose a few days before his Death. This disagreeable Circumstance detained him much longer than he expected Mr Weiser being obliged to go thro a formal Ceremony of Condolence before he could proceed upon

upon his other Business and their Stores were consumed before the Fort was half finished they obliged to depend upon an Indian Diet of Ind.n Corn Squashes & Deer Entrails boyl'd which al tho' no Hardship for Mr Weiser who experienced the like before, was a great one to Mr Claus who never saw such eatables made use of by Man kind, and was pretty well pinched with Hunger before he could persuade himself to taste them, during their Stay at Onondago wch was about 9 weeks he collected a Vocabulary of Indian Words joining it to his Journal wch he regularly kept. On their Return to Pennsylvania wch was so late that all the Ships for Europe were sailed so that Mr Claus was disappointed going home that Fall; In the mean while Colo Weiser introducing Mr Claus

to

to the then Governor of Pennsylva.
who was James Hamilton Esq.
who shewed himself very friendly and
kind to Mr. Claus, asking him fre-
quently to his House, and during
the Course of Winter & Spring 1757.
prevailed upon Mr. Claus to take
a Tour to the Mohawk Town
at Fort Hunter & endeavour
to improve in & acquire in the
Iroquois Language as much as
he could offering every Encourage-
ment & Advantage in behalf of
his Province & his Interest with the
Neighbouring Provinces; One of Colo.
Weisers Sons was also to be sent to ac-
company Mr. Claus, and a Credit
was given from the Prov.ce to Mr.
James Stevenson Merch.t at Alb.y
to answer any Draughts (Mr. Claus
might draw upon him for, towards
defraying
fixing

fixing themselves at one Brant an old friend of Col. Wisers and chief of the Mohawks of the Fort Hunter. According in Spring 1752. they proceeded in Company with the Commissioners from Jersey &c. consisting of Mr. Peters the Secretary of the Province Col. Weiser* & others to Albany where a Gen. Congress was to be held with Commissioners from every Province and the Continent & the Six Nations & their confederates, relative to the safety of the Frontiers in case of an other War and to prevent the French Emissaries to debauch & entangle the Ind. Nats to their Interest they having them in View to draw all the Ind. Nations in their power over to their [redacted] & build a chain of Forts from Canada to Louisiana thro the Ind. Country beginning at Presq Isle in Lake Erie

* Mr Franklin Gov. Thomas & Mr Penn and Lord Stanley were dep. Gen. to the Congress of Albany

and so on to Fort du Quesne now
Fort Pitt and down the River Ohio.
A few days after they were settled
at Brants that Chief introduced
them to S.r Wm. Johnson who
treated them very Friendly offering
any Assistance in his power
& gave them an Invitation to his
House. Young Weiser did not
like his Situation Kurtwout
acquainting his parents returned
to Pennsylvania, and Mr. Claus
continued his Studies; about that
time an Alteration happened in
S.r Williams Family and one Mr. Robt.
Adams his Store and Book keeper
being dismissed and one Mr. James
Wilson from Albany employed as he
was an entire Stranger to the Indians
& their Language S.r Wm. proposed to
Mr. Claus to stay at his house where
he could improve as much in the

End.

Indn Language at Wyoming there being always
& Mark Indians about the Lodge
~~house & Village~~ to which Mr Claus
consented and made himself as
Usefull as his Capacity would allow
but if coming to the Ears of the Gov.
of Pennsylv. in that Mr Claus re-
sided at Fort Johnson Col. Johnson
it created a Jealousy & Dissatisfaction and
he was admitted to put himself
under the Tuition of King Henery
at Canajoharee, with which Mr
Claus complied and fixed himself at
that Chiefs house who was very proud
of it and did every thing in the power
to make his Situation agreable to him
instructing & entertaining him with
the Traditions of his Ancestors, their
Customs, Wars with their Indn Enemies
& Mr Claus took Memorandums of it
& then began to improve in writing the
Indn Language by getting his Indn Tutor
to dictate him, Speeches, Messages and
other

Forms & Customs used by the Indians in
Councils, Ceremonies of Condolence
&c. &c. — Anno 1752 a Congress of the
6 Nations being assembled in Albany
a Society of New Engld People
from Connecticut at the head of wch
was one Col. Tyler, obtained clandestinely by the Means of one Jn.o Lydius
an Indian Deed for a Tract of Land
upon Susquehanna River called
the Great Meadows alias Wyoming
at Shahandowane within the limits
of the Prov.a of Pennsylv.a upon the
Strength of wch unjust & pd.o Deed and
underhand Action the Connecticut people begun to take possession of said
Tract of Land & prepared to settle it.
The Prov.a of Pennsylv.a in alarmed
at that Proceed. letters of Invitation
in Januy 1754 to him Penn. from that Government
requesting him
to take a Journey to Philadelphia
with

with some of his Counsellors of Canajoharee & Schaal to conduct them there, according to which with difficulty prevailed upon him: Indians being ever suspicious & cautious to go among white people even to Albany & Schaal: dreading so much the Journey (being 12 d. Mar. each way) they undertake the Journey by the way of Esopus & the Menissings, and as great the Mistrust & Apprehension of the Indrs was to venture so far among the Whites, as great was also the Curiosity of the Inhabitants to see King Hendrey & his Attendants, none of the Six Nats having ever past thro' that part of the Country. — And on coming into the Skirts of the Town of Cedarsyle in & Bethlehem the Moravian Settlem: some Men of the Anabaptists w.th long Beards made their Appearance to have a view of the Indrs at which they were so terrified (having never seen a long beard'd Man before) that they

they fled from them like frightened children, fleeing themselves under M.r Eliots protection. The News of the Indians approach soon reached Philad.a and a little Distance from y.e Town some of the Govr's Council & other Gentlemen met the Indians with the Govr's Compliments desiring they would halt a little & then proceed slow into Town as the Citizens intended to receive them in a compliment.ry manner, Accordingly entering Second Street coming from Germ.n Town, the Town Militia was drawn up on both sides, & a numerous Populace assembled & following with Acclamations of Huzza for King Henery until he entered the State House where the Governor & Council rec.d him & compliment.d him, and every imaginable Respect & Friendship was shewn him by every one that had an Opportunity of seeing his Company. He stayed at

abt. Ten days during wch time he repeatedly assured the Governor in Council that the Connecticut Purchase was made clandestinely by Mr Lydius at Albany with a few drunken Oneida Sachems without the knowledge & Consent of the Six Nations in Council, and the Signers of the Ind. Deed had not the least Right or Claim to the Lands they sold. And that on his return he would acquaint the Body of the Confederacy with it And have the Purchase made Null & void by a publick Decree of the whole Body, & ascertain and establish the just Claim & Property of the Lands to the Proprietaries of Pennsylvania Mr Claus returned with K. Hendrick by Esopus & Albany where Capt. Wm. fell in Love with Miss Mary Brant who was then (likely not have) had the Small Pox. In Spring 1755. the War with France broke out on Acct. of their Encroachment upon the Kings Territories on the

This

Ohio; In Autumn 1754. Gen.l Braddock was sent to Virginia with the 44th & 48th Regts in Spring 1755. He summond the respective Govrs of the Colonies and Genl Shirley & Coll Johnson to Alexandria in Virg.a to lay before them His Maj.y Instructions relative to the ensuing Campaign & what part they were to act. Shirley in it Govr Shirley as a Colonel in the Army was to act as second in Command & was to carry on the Operations to the W: West [illegible] Expeditions against Niagara & Crownpoint. The former Genl Shirley was to command in person the latter Genl Johnson was appointed with the Provincial Rank of Major Genl and sole Agent & Superintendt of the Northern District of British America excluding the Governors of the respective Provinces to interfere for the future in Indian Affairs; which order

order of the kings in a manner discharged or dismissed Mr Claus from his intended service for the Province of Pennsylva. and Sir Wm Johnson sensible of his influence with the Mohawk Indians particularly the Encouragements offered him a Commission of a Lieutenancy in the Indian Service with Mr Claus accepted and at the same time was employed as Dept Secretary for Indian affairs under Capt Wraxall. Preparations were made for the campaign and Sir Wm went to Albany to forward his Expedition to Crown point, and General Shirley proceeded up the Mohawk River while getting Batteaux &c. ready at Schenectady Mr Claus past that on his return from Albany, when he happened to meet Mr William Alexander now Lord Sterling Secretary to General Shirley, who as an Acquaintance of Mr Claus's

since

Since the Convocation of 1752 at Albany proposed to him to make the Campaign with General Shirley that he was empowered from His Excellcy to offer him a Kings Commission as Lieutenant of an Albany Company for a Lieut. in his Regt. — To which he replied that as he had accepted of a Lieut. at the not in a standing Corps he should not choose to retract his Engagement with Sr Wm Johnson and therefore only thanked His Excellcy for his kind Offer, he used many Arguments how easily he could disengage himself with Sr Wm but to no purpose to his Mortification, & so left Mr Clay. This Conversation happened at the house of Mr. Ab. Yates who kept the Ferry at Schenectady. — General Shirley proceeded a few days after up the Mohawk River on his March to Oswego, Sir Wm Johnson being then at Albany preparing Matters for his Expedition as Commanding Officer.

And

And altho an equal Distribution had been made in a Gen. Congress of the six Nat.s held at Fort Johnson of the Number of Ind.s that were to go with each Expedition & those nearest to Osayo & Niagara to join Gen.l Shirley & the Lower ones Gen.l Johnson; Yet General Shirley brought from Albany one Co. of Mohickons and a Number of Albany Rabble under pay for Ind.n Traders to whom he gave Commissions as Ind.n Officers who on their Arrival at the first or Lower Mohawk Town used such Ind.s were destined for it as best acquainted with the Country & Road he was to take; they most unjustly & unfairly in Ind.n Affairs endeavoured to inveigle & allure by Bribes in Money and promises as many of the Lower Mohawks as in their power, however they met with so little Success that they got no more than 18. or 20. and those

&c.

* Interest by Canada Indians become acquainted with the Value of Money & dependant of the consequent ease & Expedites to Government.

Relations to Co. Lydius. Mr. Claus and the rest of the Ind. Officers then upon the Spot watched the Motions of these people & reminded the Indians of the Arrangement made by the six Nations at Fort Johnson. — General Shirley passing by Fort Hunter without stopping proceeded towards Canajoharee the upper Mohawk Town to which Indian Mr. Claus was appointed and he suspecting that the same fatigues would be carried on as was at the lower Mohk. Town proceeded with all Expedition to Canajoharee and arriving at King Hendrick's house where he lodged found that Gen. Shirley had retired to Counsel with the Indians & Henery & his two Brothers Abraham & Nicholas just came from Albany after his Arrival & Henery immediately communicated every particular to Mr. Claus the chief purport of the Meeting was that General Shirley after Loading Henery & his Brothers Packs had the

as well as the 6 Nations

whole Village at his Nod, with cash & presents giving Henery a Capt.ⁿ Commiss.ⁿ & his Brothers Lieu.ᵗˢ & their Wives a Number of Spanish Dollars, &c in the strongest Manner invited them to accompany him well knowing the rest of the Indᵃˢ must follow many of whom were likewise bribed, telling them that he was an old Acquaintance of theirs having had Interviews with them at Albany before Coˡ Johnson came to America & hoped they would not set aside their old Friendship, but share his Fate the ensuing Expedition against Niagara &ᶜ &ᶜ &ᶜ — Lᵗ Henery shewed Mᵗ Claus the Belt of Tuscarum & the Sargeant Commiss.ᵗ that were given on the Occasion and asked his

Opinion &
his Interest how to act in the affair
& whether Colo. or Sr. Wm. Johnson
would allow him his Capt. pay
& support his family during his
Absence, The same Question was
put by the Brothers Abrah.m Wickes.
Upon wch. Mr. C. Lawe made them
Answer that he was surprized to
hear all they said after the solemn
Arrangements the whole Confe-
deracy of the 6. Nat.s had entered
into at Fort Johnson not long ago
in making an equal Division of
their Warriors between Gov.r Kirkby
and Johnson, and that Hendrick
heard that the six Nat.s were firmd
Strict in
keeping any thing settled & fixed upon
in Council and that they must be sensible these
unfair Advantages were taken in
their Friend & Bro.r Gov.r Johnsons
Absence

upon his March towards the
Enemys Country expecting daily
to be joined by his Friends the Indians that
solemnly promised to accompany
him in his Expedition that promise
between Friends & Brothers were by
all Nations looked upon as sacred
But he knew them men of no better
Character & principles than to break
their Oaths & with regard to Sir
Johnsons indemnifying them in
Money Matters he was pretty well
convinced & they knew him so well
that he would not suffer them to
be Losers by him &c.
That he considered Gen Shirleys private
& clandestine Council very unfair and
unbecoming in the Colonies one of the Persons
he deprecated & condemned behind his back & that my
Opinion was that Gen Shirley only made
Tools of them by flattering & Promising
while

while he stood in need of them after
wch they perhaps would never see him
again, when Genl Johnson who was a
Resident among them & all probability would live & die among them and
race it up his Power to show them
many favours & Services, &c. This
Talk had its Effect and these Chiefs
called a private Council in which it
was agreed that a Running Messenger
should be sent thro the 6 Nation
Country with a large Belt of Wampm
to apprise them of Genl Wileys Approach with his Suit of Ld Dr Officers
whom the Six Nations were strictly
enjoined not to notice nor give Ear to
if call'd together, or regard any of
their Verbals, as their Designs & Insinuations were bad & proceeded
from a bad heart at the instigation of the D—l
to annull the Resolutions they had agreed
upon

upon in full Council ab.t the Distribution of their Wam.s & thereby occasion Confusion & Disagreem.t - That they the Mohawks & a Man were determined to join Gen.l Johnson and they were the Seniors of the Confederacy they expected they would listen to their Advice and follow their Example. — Accordingly a Runner was dispatched w.th a large Belt of Wampum, the Result of w.ch was that the six Nations in General accepted the Message and followed G.l Johnson. Gen.l Shirley had not 50 Indians with him. The Mohawks Fisher from Oneyd.a and other Ind.a Traders as above mentioned delayed they would have all the 5 Nat.s & Canada. All this Time Fort Edward was on the Mark for Defence. The Indians being assembled at Fort Johnson to the Number of upwards 400. King Hendrick led the Van w.th Mr Claus and passing thro the Country every body allowed that Body of Ind.s the finest sight they ever saw. After their Arrival at Fort Edward a Body of Provincials were prepared to march in Conjunction with

with the Indians to take Possession of Lac. St Sacrement now Lake George. Accordingly on the 4th of Sept. 1755. they marched off to the Number of 1100 or 1200 exclusive of Indians with two Field pieces in the Front & an Iron Morter, having been threatned by the French Indians with an Attack at half way Brook, but they marched cautiously on and arrived without Interruption at the Lake the Borders of it being a thick Wood. Sr Wm ordered the Woods to be cleared from the South End of the Lake towards Fort Edward where there is a Swamp on the right & left & he pitched his Tent on a rising rocky Ground. The Men were employed in clearing the Woods and the Indians scouring the Woods towards Crown point & Southbay where the Enemy was expected from. On Sunday Morning the 7th of Sept. a Scout of Mohawks came in, the Chief of them a trusty Ind. that went by the Name of Thick Lawrence, entring Sr Wm. Tent he said he was rejoiced to see him

him safe, that he discovered a large Body
of the Enemy Coming from South Bay
and seemingly directing their March to
wards Fort Edward and that they marched
in 3 Columns the Impressions of each Column
made in the Ground he guessed to be between
6. or 700. a Council of war was then
called & the first thing considered upon was
to endeavour to get an Express to the
Commanding Officer of Fort Edward who
was Brig.r Gen.l Lyman before the place
was invested no one of the New England
Troops would undertake the Task till
one Jacob Adams of the New Jorthers
offered himself, he was equipped with
Sir W.m Johnson Horse & Furniture & when
he came within 2 short Miles of Fort
Fort Edward he found himself in the Midst
of the French Army & was called to to stop
but he depending on the Swiftness of his
Horse thought he would force his way
thro' but Soon was fired at & Knocked
off the Horse and the Barbarians found
whom they [illegible]
acquainted the Brigadier Lyman was
encouraged to defend himself to the
Last

last that he should be supported from
the Carrying Place early the next Morning
this happened late on Sunday afternoon.
and as Baron Dieskau who commanded
the French Army afterwards owned made
him alter his plan of attacking Fort
Edward being told by the Ind.n Officers
the Indians disliked attacking a
Fort, and prepared going to the Lake
being convinced that part of our Army
was surrounded with Woods and
still capered & without lines, And it
was resolved to March that Night
within a short distance of our Camp
& attack early next Morn.g. In the mean
while Coll.o Johnson summoned a Coun-
cil of War in which it was agreed that if
the Enemy came from South bay they must
have left their Boats with Stores &c. there,
to send 500. Men up the Lake where
there was a short Cart Path through the Woods to
South Bay to secure those Boats while
another Body of 500. Men were to
march to the Relief of Fort Edward. —
And what could be feared from those gone

to

to Southbay to advance & endeavour
to get the Enemy between two fires. —
S.r Wm Johnson communicated this
decision to King Hendrey & some of
his Ind.s Chiefs. who immediately re-
plied that if he was to divide his Force
Force so as not to cooperate together
he would be undone and the Chiefs his
Ind.s would leave the Army, but if he
would keep his Army together and
send a sufficient Body towards Fort Edward to
reconnoiter the Enemy, and if near
the Fort to retire & make an Attack when daily
less the Fort would sally & the Enemy
be beat off. If that was not the Case
then to march with all his Force
& attack the Enemy. However the
taking the Dispatches from the Capt.s
occasioned a Council of War to be called
by the French Gen.l And the Indians
hearing of & apprehending that Fort
Edward was well Fortified declined
attacking that Fort as above mentioned.
On Monday Morn.g the 8.th Sept.r 1755
between 6 & 800. Whites & Indians
marche

marched from Camp by Genery
commanded the Indians & marched
in Front and a Colo. Williams from
New England commanded y Provincials
they had not marched 4 Miles before the
Indians were challenged in Iroquois
who they were; Upon which Genery
replied We are the six confederate
Indn Nations the Heads & Superiors
of all Indn Nations of the Continent
of America; Whereupon the French
Indian answered, we are the 7.
confederate Indn Nations of Canada
& our Allies the western Tribes,
and are come in conjunction with
our Father the King of France
& Troops to fight his Enemies the
English without the least Intention
to quarrel or trespass against
any Indn Nation, & We therefore
desire You will keep out of the way
lest we transgress & involve our
selves

selves [illegible] among ourselves.
Whereupon K. Hendrick answered
that they the 6 Nations came to assist
their Brethr. the English against the French
who were encroaching upon the
Territories of the English as well as
Indians on the Ohio. And it was
their place rather to join them, or
at least follow their advice and keep
out of their way &c. Upon which one
Hendrick's Young Warriors fired upon
the French Indian that spoke tho'
behind the Bushes as were all the
rest of Ind.s & French laying on both
sides of the High road in Ambush. And
the English & their Ind.s stood exposed
in the open Road, and by the Enemy's
fire found themselves in a manner
surrounded & [illegible]
over powered by triple the Number
not
a running fight then begun, Col.o William
took possession of rising Ground
with

with some of the [illegible] ended it for a good while till the Party were Rallied wherein the French & their Indians suffered much—

Fenery being on Horseback let off his horse and being heavy old Man as gray headed as Silver was soon left in the Rear and attempting to gain the Camp on the left where he thought would meet with no Enemy unluckily not far from Camp fell in with the French Baggage Guard of young Men who having no fire Arms stab'd him in the Back with a spear or Bayonet, some pretend to say it was committed by a Squaw the Lads being too young to attempt it & by the Manner of his being scalped it is probable a woman did it as the Scalp being taken off not larger than an English Crown. The French did not continue their pursuit all the way to

the Camp but halfed within
1½ Mile upon a Hight, to collect
their Men & refresh them for the
Assault of our Camp, and while
the French General was planning
and making his Disposition for the
Attack by the respective Corps the
Mons.r St Pierre Superintendt
of the Canada Ind.s came and told
the General in private that the
Indians were not for a second
Attack as they did not expect to
many Ind.s of the Six Nations, with
the English, with whom they were
not at War and did not chuse on that
to Quarrel with them besides it was
not a Custom with Ind.s after having
had an Action & made their Enemy give
way to make a second Attack but im-
mediately return home with their Spoil
and Trophies, and Mons.r St Pierre at

the

The same observed that the Canadians in General regulated themselves by the Conduct of the Indians when upon War parties &c. Them.

At which Discourse the French General was greatly vexed and chagreend and replied Monsr. Hiere that he was determind at all Events to pursue his Plan with a saying that as the Liquor was drawn it must be drank.

And so marched off with his Troops, the Canadians were to flank his right & the Indians his Left and make a brisk Assault forcing their way into the Enemys Camp, however both flanks moved very slow and the General seeing himself not supported & he detected and his Troops lost few to make a formidable Assault: when within a Musket shot of the

Camp

Camp ordered them to file to the
right & left of the main Road into
the Woods which were very open and
commence a Platoon firing upon
the Camp and the Canadians
and Indians making very little
effort he gave up the Assault
entirely and his Troops beginning
to be much gall'd & pick'd off from
the Camp saw his hopes of Success
frustrated and himself having re-
ceived a Ball in the Knee, ordered
a Retreat which was effected
this was done without much con-
fusion and himself being in myself
request of his
Friends laid at the foot of a Tree would not
suffer him at the hazarding to be carried off for
fear of the Enemy
the force of the French Ca-
nadians being so much superior to
Gen. Johnson
our thought it not prudent for fear
of a feint to order a pursuit but kept
his Men under Arms at the Breast work
wch consisted chiefly of a Number
of Albany provision Waggons which

Capt.

Capt Wrasall General Johnsons
Aid de Camp & Secretary ordered
Mr Claus before the Action
to Tie Rangers in a line along the
Breast work which consisted of some
Trees cut down in a hurry at the front of the
Camp in some places not above a
foot & half high & which waggons was
the principal shelter of our people
being shot to a Riddle and compleatly
lost a few Minutes before the Attack.
Notwithstanding the Orders against
a pursuit some Rowling Men for the
sake of Plunder went to the field
of Action and one happening to come
up to the french General Laying at
the foot of a Tree the General presented
him the Hilt of his Sword at which
the ignorant wretch was so frightned
that he stepd back and fired the whole
charge of his Musket consisting of a
brace of Balls thro the General saying
General Johnson having it reported
to him that the french General lay
dangerously wounded in the field of
Action, ordered a party to bring him
to

to his Marquis, he was followed by
a monstrous Crowd of white Savages
Mr Claus was ordered to en-
deavour to keep off the Indians who
were very vindictive on account of
the losses of their friends in the
Morning's skirmish but Mr Claus
placed himself at the front door
telling them the General was dying
they then demanded his Watch Buckles
& as Trophies they were told they
could not be come at till he was
dead in short it was with much
difficulty they were kept off as they
did not regard the sentries. The
General after taking some weak
Drink, wanted much to express
his Gratitude seeing Mr Claus so
indefatigable in defending him against
the Savages. Mr Claus spoke then
but very little French when the Gen.
observed he spoke the French with a
German Accent he spoke German to

which

Which surprized Mr. Claus and gave mutual Satisfaction and the Indns having at last droped their Animosity & Impatience General Johnson still keeping the Booty at the Breakfast Baron Dieskau was broken Knee & full of pain told Mr. Claus he wished the Fellow to whom he offered himself Prisoner after the Action had dispatched him at once, he had received a wound in the knee during the Action and finding the day lost he determined to surrender himself Pris.r to a Grenadier but a Provincial Soldier coming up he presented him his Sword when the Fellow drew back & aimed at him and drove his whole charge thro his Loyns which must only bring on a very painful lingering Death, And then Lamented the Occasion of that Days Disaster

Saying

all the Blame upon his Indians & Canadians who disobeyed his Orders in the Attack of the Morning for the Enemy entirely surrounded but when his Excy saw such a Number of ours & knowing K. Henry would lead them on on horseback they seeming by their Cries much animated and instead of attacking & demanding our People to surrender as it should have been Measures in them to have done they began to parley with Henry who seeming by his Answers (to the aforementioned) to agree in such a Manner as to damp their & the Canadians Ardor & Courage began the Attack himself which turned out ill as (allowed) our Men retreated; his Troops not acquainted with Woodfighting the whole turned out a compleat (drawn) Action, whereas had his Orders been obeyed he must inevitably have taken the whole party Prisoners

and

and with a Victorious Body of abt 2000. Men surprised us in our open Camp with very little difficulty completed the Victory, having Encamped by ... acquainted by Gen.l Wolfe the night before of our whole Strength & Situation, exclaiming ag.st his Inf.y & Canadians and praising ours. Then repeated this Behaviour & Disobedience before the Attack of the Camp as above mentioned saying if even then they had acted a proper part he was pretty sure of success being sensible of the Panick and Terror our retreating party must have occasioned in our Camp wch he knew was defenceless, however he said the Line of Waggons surprised him, It was

was now late and Gen.l Johnson
came in from the Lines to see how
the Gen.l did and pleased to find
that he was left quiet and could
converse w.th Mr. Claus and the latter
expressed his thanks for having
put him under so carefull a person
requesting Mr. Claus's company
as often it could be spared which
Gen.l Johnson promised should be
complied with. Next Morning
early he was removed to another
Tent, as Gen.l Johnsons Marquis
was the whole day surrounded
with Indians and Mr. Claus was
ordered to keep as much as possible
at him; that Morn.g Capt.n Ber-
nier his Aid du Camp delivered
himself up being afeard of the
Ind.s to come in the Even.g before.
Baron Dieskau seeing himself

removed

removed out of [redacted]
Gen.rs was now [redacted]
the Ecrevaches [redacted]
who charged his [redacted]
having fired [redacted]
the day before as [redacted]
Men that were wounded in the
Morning would recover, ex-
postulating very much with
the General who assured him
by M.r Claus that upon his
word & honor he knew no matter
than that he gave an order for
such a quantity of Ball out the
Kings Magazein but to no
purpose Notwithstanding
Capt. Bernier & M.r Claus en-
treaties to forbear giving Ha-
tatoness to offend in such
Vain Kidgonies for he came
every day for several days

pas.

Marading with two Large Mus-
quetoes Cartridge Boxes slung
across his Body & a French
Fuzee Musket on his Shoulder
Gage Dies Lamenting
unfortunate situation he
found himself in, when two
days before he expected to be
on his March towards New York
being perfectly acquainted with
the distressed & defenceless Cir-
cumstances of all the Colonies
and only General Burgoyne and his
handfull of Troops whom he consi-
dered as Provincials and even would
not mind him but send a sufficient
party to waylay & secure him.
And in case of Success he was privy
to one of all the Indns in the British
Interest. And that himself and
all his Troops would march thro
the heart of the Country, and

alſo

with the Canadians & Indians who would have readily followed him from Canada to harrass the Country on his flanks and in the rear; the troops from Louisbourg & environs to besiege Boston, those from Fort du Quesne with all the Western Ind.s to ravage the middle Southern provinces, & they from the Mississi Georgia & the Carolinas. And a powerfull Fleet & Army to join him as soon as possible at New York. All which he said could not have failed him to put in Execution chiefly that Peace in the course of y.e Winter, and France thereby obtained a glorious peace, he seemed to express himself with Emotion

and

and Force then reclined on his
Pillow quite feeble & exhausted
fainting & complaining of his wounds
he rode some days Keeping Camp
until he gathered a little Strength
to be conveyed to Fort Edward
in a Litter & from thence he was
by water brought to Albany to
Gen. Schuylers House and a few
days after in a Sloop to New York
After three Campaigns got rid and
defeated the Designs of the French
ag.st the Colonies it was found upon
Encountering the Strength of the
French Army Baron Dieskau safely
establishing a Fort at Tyonderogo was by far too formidable
to make an Attempt again
with our sickly & fatigued
Army and it was resolved in a
Council

Province of Mar to secure what
was gained that Campaign
by establishing a Post at
Lake George and a Fort was
laid out by Capt. Eyre of
H.M. Reg.t & Engineer sent from
Gen.l Braddocks Army in July
upon the most defensible
Spot of Ground he could pitch
upon near the Lake by the
Name of Fort Wm Henry
the Works were carried on
Spirit & Alacrity so as to make
it tenable for the ensuing Winter
M.r Eliot made different Tours
round the Lake to reconnoitre the
French & their Operations at
Crown Point
Chiyon da rago & there carried on
their Works likewise very briskly
but saw no Appearance of a
Second

Attack as was before reported.
The Camp near Fort W.m Henry
broke up the latter End of November
And some time in December
Mr Claus accompanied General
Johnson to New York where
General Shirley was, having some
time before arrived there from
his fruitless Expedition against Niagara
and he lived in Security at the
ner at New York. And on General
Johnson Arrival there he was received
with Acclamations of Joy and
Congratulation thro every Street
he past. The Shipping firing their
Guns & the greater part of the
Town was illuminated Gen.l
Johnson being conducted by his
Friends to his Lodging partly
in Carriages partly on horseback
his most intimate friends attended
him

sign to his Room, such as Gov.r
Council of the Jerseys, Col.o
Oliver De Lancey, Mr. Watts
Mr. Secretary Chambers, Brow.r
& Capt. Marsh. After debating
& treating themselves Gov.r Cornbury
told Gen.l Johnson in confidence
that altho he had been so well
rec.d just now (made a genteel full address)
Admiral Mostyn were his declared
Enemies and he going to make many
serious & heavy Complaints to
the King & Ministry against him
laying the whole Blame upon him
for not having done anything
of their Expedn On Acc.t of his having
sent a Belt of Wampum to the Six
Nations clandestinely that not to Man.
of them should join General Shirley
Exped.n which accordingly was the
Case He had no Judiciary without
whom

he could not prevail to go on
with his Troops, & that he Genl
Johnson had diametrically
acted contrary to his Orders
& Instructions of which he
should officially acquaint
The Kings Ministers &c
Genl. Johnson assured the
Gentlemen present upon his
Word & Honor that he was an
entire Stranger to what they
saying & returned very easy in his
Conscience about the Affair. The
Gentlemen replied that Genl Lyman
had the very Belt of Wampum
in possession by wch the Indians
were desired to follow Genl Johnson
& that it was sent while he was
at Albany preparing himself for
his Expedn

Capt.ⁿ That Gen.ˡ Shirley had good Friends at Court who would make his Story appear very plausible. But might Generally lessen the Merit of his Services with the King. Gen.ˡ Johnson persisted positively of having sent no Message by a Belt of Wampum after the Meeting at Fort Johnson where the Number of Ind.ˢ was settled that were to join each Capt.ⁿ What to the contrary Testified Gen.ˡ Shirley & himself.

Mr Claus being all the while present during this Altercation & having never had an Opportunity of acquainting Gen.ˡ Johnson of what past with Gen.ˡ Shirley & his Officers while he was at Albany

and

And now Sir Henry was likely to be inveigled by Gov. Shirley at a Council held at the W. Village, and now Mr. Glaus prevented his agreeing to G. Shirley's proposal & great offers, Henry being convinced of Gs Shirley ungenerous & unfair Action towards Sr. Johnson in his Absence made him take the Step of sending Skinner with a Belt to the Chiefs with an Acct. of G. Shirley's Attempts of oversetting the Arrangement agreed upon by the united Chiefs, positively enjoining the Chiefs not a Man to join G. Shirley on his Expedn. to Niagara but to Sr. Johnson &c. which orders were accordingly obeyed & very few joined Gen. Shirley. The Company proceeds

in

in G: Johnsons lodging were
astonished at Mr Clauss Inv.
& at once agreed that must be
the (clearing up &) inclosing of G: Shirleys Story
& Complaint and the Gent.n
judged it necessary that Mr Clauss
Acct of the Affair should be dis-
tinctly sent down in writing and
he to make Affidavit thereto.
And Gen. Johnson to inclose &
Affid.t in his General Report
(then subjoined made)
of his Campaign to the Ministry
& assign the Reason of inclosing
such an Affidavit, wch must an-
null G: Shirleys Accusation un-
doubtably. And wch accordingly
was done. Gov.r Dowmall (who ac-
cepted to succeed Sir Jeffrey Amherst
G: Shirley in his Governm.t) (with
that & some other Instr.s about Ind.n Matters
& a Description of Lake George Mr

Mr. Claus gave Gov.r Cornwall le-
ters so friendly & obliging as to pro-
cure Mr. Claus a Lieu.t Commiss.n
after his Arrival in London in
the then raising 60th or Royal Am.n
Regim.t wch he accordingly ob-
tained in Dec.r 1756 from Lord Loudon
Gen.l Johnson in Spring 1756 rec.d
a most gracious Answer from
His Maj.ty upon his Report of the
Glorious Battle Sept.r 8 1755 with a
Letter & Present of Belts & Strings of Wampum
a Present of Belts & Strings of Wampum
&c. &c. &c. Mr. Claus & Capt. Nicholas
Secretary to Gen.l Johnson & the Indian Depty
were the Gentlemen Messengers & Bearers of
those agreeable Dispatches who de-
livered them to Him in his Bed-
Room after reading the Letters &c.
Mr. Claus was called in to Room
when Gen.l Johnson in presence
of the Ministers told him that his

Services

It must be of very
ge to the Sunday Schools
Canada, if a well chosen library can be procured, in every town and settlement, all, that punctually attend the different Schools, can have access to the most interesting books. And, as the monies of the Society are to be vested in books approved, by liberal and pious men of different denominations, this will have the most happy effect in destroying party feelings, which, unless checked threatens our country and youth with ruin. To collect the children at the same place, and teach them out of that holy book, which is the foundation of our faith and practice, as Protestant christians, is the grand object of every well regulated Sunday School. Therefor it may be expected, that Sunday Schools can be opposed by none but bigot partizans and infidels.

It is gratifying to hear, that Earl Dalhousie is patron and subscriber to this Institution in the Lower Province, and as, His Excellency, Sir Peregrine Maitland, is respectfully invited to be the patron of the branches formed in Kingston and Niagara. There can be no doubt, but he will lend his patronage.

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*To the Editor of the Gleaner.*

SIR,

The name of the Rev'd. William Leeming, having appeared in your paper as one of a Committee of Correspondence on the subject of a Legislative Union of this Province, with Lower Canada. I beg to acquaint you that the nomination was made without his knowledge or concurrence—and that from the first, he declined interfering [illegible] for the question.

I am Sir,

Your ob't. Servt.

*One of the Committee.*

*December 14th*, 1822.

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## ANECDOTE.

*Lord Erskine, and a Divinity Student.*

When Lord Erskine was High Chancellor, his attention was taken, with a copy of verses, which appeared in the Morning Chronicle, signed "Hoxton Academy." His Lordship's curiosity led him to enquire after the author, who it appeared was a Mr. Bannister, a student in that Seminary, His Lordship, through the Editor, invited the young Student to breakfast with him, when His Lordship after complimenting his taste, very frankly disclosed the object of the interview;—which was, to ascertain whether Mr. Bannister had any scruples against ordination; adding, that as Lord Chancellor, he had several livings in his gift, which, he wished to give away to pious and promising young men, and one was now open of TWELVE HUNDRED POUNDS a year, which would be for his acceptance, if he would conform; His L'dship beg'd

he rendered his Services
the Zealous Conduct (in his Absence
with Regard to frustrating the
Designs of Gov^r Shirley endeav-
ring to draw all the Six Nations
after him, were of such an in-
teresting Nature as flatter'd him
and both to the Interest of the
Publick & in particular his
own, that he desired Mr Paus
to ask of him any Thing what-
soever he had in his Power to
give, And to be some time to
consider about it. Mr Paus
made a Bow, thanking Sir Will^m
for the Compliment & would
consider about it And leaving the
Room his Mind was so agitated and
surprised upon the Occasion that
he retired to his Room & sat down
at

at a loss what to say or do. The first Object that presented itself to his Mind was a certain young Lady he had his Addresses to for some time past who seemed not to be averse to them & Mr Clay flattered himself that Mrs Wms Consent was only wanting to complete the Matter, made that the first Object of his Request from whom he proposed the Matter first to her, She told Mr Clay that all the Objection she had was that she thought it rather too early to change her Condition particularly at a Time of War as was uncertain how it might turn out desiring Mr Clay to put it off to a more convenient & quiet time. He was quite satisfied with her Discourse upon the Occasion and dropd Hints of saying any thing

them

then to Jeffrys. Some time after Jeffrys asked him to take a Ride to Causjoharee and on his Return asked him whether he had thought of the Offer he made him before Captn Strawell, he said he had not, He then said he would propose a thing to him if agreable that as he had a Misunderstanding in the Co.ty Reg.t he was ready to advance him the purchase Money of a Company asking the then regulated Price of the Army, Mr Claus answered it was 1500 Sterl.g And Jeffrys told him to give in the Name for a purchase and that he might draw upon him for that Sum whenever he pleased, or lodge it in some safe hand, Mr Claus accepted his Offer most gratefully and

said

the Money was in safe hands with them until a purchase offered. And accordingly gave in his Name to Baron de Munster Majr of H. Bells Regt or Roy: American Regt And no Company offering to be purchased in Mr Claus's Turn till Spring 1761. when Capt Willyamoz of sd Bells obtained Leave of selling his Company to Jeffery Amherst then Comr in Chief permitted Mr Claus to purchase, And he drew upon Sr Wm Johnson for £800 — Sherl: in part of the offer leaving the remaining £700. — in Sr Wms hands which he does not doubt Sr Wm. Chale will

will honorably discharge.

See the Continuation of these Memoirs in the Explanation of Mr. Claus's services to be given in to the Commissioners appointed by Parliament to enquire into Loyalists pretensions, carried on from 1755. to 1782

To
Captain Schmidt at
Ft. Stevens
Ore.

Dep a Mahon le 1 janvier 1782 47

Monsieur

Je vous souhaite à pour vous assurer de mon respect
je ne pas plus grand pour vous assurer plus tot a Cadix
des mauvais temps la navige N'a pas pu tenir
pas pu sortir

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| voici ci joint un roy | Savoir | 125 |
| 123 chapon a 40 sol le Compte | | 70 |
| 70 perdrix a 6 sol le Cop belle | | 14 2 |
| 34 daim a 7 le Couple | | |
| 1 outarde | | 30 |
| 6 minot de toca a 5 le minot | | 24 |
| un marsouin | | |
| un autre marsouin | | |
| 14 grand poissons dorés | | |
| 26 petit poissons | | |
| 10 perche | | |
| 4 poissons plats | | |
| 2 langouste | | |
| 1 Cop 147 chapon si vous voulé avoir la bonté de les prendre | | |
| a Monsieur R Mathieu 24 chapon 12 perdrix 1 Cop 76 | | |

perdrix Comme je n'ai pas de poisson j'envoie un peu de tout
un autre traine si vous navoit pas assez de chapon mange
moi ceux manque deau et si haut que les pescheur ne sont
sortie et les poissons sont dun cherté terrible
j'ai vous pris Monsieur davoir la bonté de dir a Monsieur le
Capitain le maitre que je frai tout mon possible pour lui soigner
par Cette traitre assuré lui me les peste du poissons

Je ne fais pas envoyer l'argent pour les traites
il y a Action de nouveau jusqu'à Monsieur le
dit ~~Colonel~~ Colonel, a pourvoir pour deliverer
les effets au fur et a mesure suivant la demande qui m'a
été faite, si il y a quelque chose que je puis faire
pour vous je vous prie de me charger je tacherai
de tout mon Coeur de faire tout mon possible pour
faire votre Commission

Je Monsieur votre très humble
et très obeissant serviteur

Montreal the 14th Jan.y 1702

Sir

I have the honor to acquaint you, for the information of his Excel: lency the Commander in Chief, that I have given up the Indn who was in Confinement, to a number of Chiefs and others collected for that purpose, with all the Ceremony prac: = tis'd in Basi's similar to that he stood in. and I'm perfectly convinc'd the Lenity Shown him will have the Desired Effect.

That in company with Col Clarke I waited on the Reverend Mr Stewart from whom I Learnt nothing but what I had information of immedi = atly on his first arrival in the Pro: = vince, and took my measures accor = dingly. He says that Oratsthon, the same Indn who came Spring Last from the Rebels and Skulkd about the

Capth Mathews &c

Village of Caughnawa

until he had no Doubt circulated all the poison he was charged with, and Debauched two foolish young men to Return with him, that he with those, and the others who Deserted this country three years ago, in coming with about thirty Oneidas were sent from Albany to join Gen.l Washington after he Crossd Hudsons River on his way to the Southward, and that he with those afterwards of his followers, are to Return to Canada and Report every thing they saw as favourable to the French & Rebels as possible &c &c

That you may Be assured there were no others sent from Albany from this Country, or since, It is impossible for any to absent themselves from the villages of Caughnawaga St Regist. or the Lake of the two mountains without the Officers knowledge residing there, and mine

Capt.n Mathews &c. and I assure you also

that neither Oratuskon or any other
Indn came into the Village of Caugh
=nawage, nor was seen near it since
Spring Last, Mr Houghton's intelli=
=gence and influence with them may
be Depended upon
I shall in concert with Col Claus
endeavour to Lay hold of any of those
Fellows shall they come in to the
Province; I wish his Excellency
would approve of having a few white
men attached to the Indn Depart
ment as Rangers, they would be
the means of putting an end to this
sort of Correspondence and otherwise
very advantageous to the Service
I have the honor to be with
great Esteem
Sir
your most Obdt and
most humble Servt
John Campbell
Lieut Col

To
Captn Mathews &c
Head Quarters

From A 1782
Lt. Col. Campbell
15 10
14. Jan. Rec. 16th.

Montreal 14th January 1782

Sir,

On the 21st of last Month I had the Honor to write to you Sundry Lists Surveys &c. that you when I received a Speech from Hesse Nation with an Extract from Lt Col Butlers Letter &c on which I shall be happy to receive your Commands.

I now take the Liberty to transmit a Copy of Accounts laid before me for payment, as they are said to be for Articles long since Issued to Indians & Hanging Parties; the first of them (Namely Falkners) was mentioned to me by Capt Lorehm, and on the best Enquiry I have been able to make, as well as from the Information of one of my Officers, Mr Jones, who was acquainted therewith, it appears Just — The Next Accounts is in favor the same Individuals, and I am informed the Men have also [illegible]

long since Sailed to Indian Hanging harbour. The
Master of them (Barnaby Falkener) was entertained to me by
Capt Gardner, and on the Enquiry I have been able
to make, as well as from the information of some of the
Officers and Men, who was acquainted Thereabouts, of
the case. That the Next Accts is in much the same
predicament, and I am informed the Man has been of Service,
but I know that Falkener was a Man of Long Imprudent
and Bad Character, and I think I may Venture to recom-
mend them to your Excellency Keeping to be honored with
your Commands Thereon.

I have been much Solicited about an Officer Quartered
on their last Sent Down, which as the Ship was not ready
to Depart, I propose to furnish my with a New Account
for Payment. I have the Honor to be with the most
Sir, Your Excellencys most Obedient
and most Humble Servant

His Excellency
Governor Hutchinson &c

Edwards

Sir

Montreal 17. January 1782.

241

I come now to answer your favor of 17th Inst. and with Regard to the Indians that went some time ago from Caghnawagey to the Rebels, I know of none later than the Month of June I think, as I did not charge my Memory with it, they not being under my Direction, reasonably supposing that Col. Campbell had reported every Circumstance to Head Quarters relative to a Caghnawagey Rebel Indian named Gonderonhon who was sent with Letters last Spring to this Country from the rebels at Albany and also to invite some young Caghnawagey Indians to accompany him to Gen. Schuyler's Home Place to the South Rebel Armies &c. &c. — As this Country being the Oneida Country must be as Sacred, as that Country is occupied by the Indians, and the rebel Oneidas are moved to Schenectady &c. Environs, and the rest to Niagara.

Mr. Stuart's Information with regard of Correspondence carried on by the Rebels to this Country, will more fully clear up this Point, for he knows from pretty good Authority of different Channels, and the first Application which was carried on by Caghnawagey Rebel Indians of that Place under the Direction of Gen. Schuyler, the Indians Names were Oghsonhon and Louison alias Adirjadanaentson of a negro Descent, but the latter he believed had not gone up that Business for he heard him say that he could not Escape on his last Expedition to Canada, about Schenectady were Coniring in Canada would Treat the rebel Indians as Tories and Tomahawks wherever they

Captain Matthews

they met them, whereas they were sure of the contrary from the Domicilians in Canada, otherwise they would visit that Country oftener. But Oghradoushon Mr. Stuart says is the favorite and Confidant of Schuyler, and held in great Estem by the Rebels, he being generally successfull in carrying his Letters safe & returns with Answers to which he contrives thus: he keeps conceald in the woods at Caghnawagey enters the Village by Night, delivers his Letters to his Wife & the Priest, who convey them to Montreal and bring back the Answers. — That last Spring Oghradoushon staid out till the Latter End of July and the Rebels began to suspect that he was either taken or delivered himself up, as he hinted to his Confidants below when in Liquor, that if he was sure of being forgiven by the General in Canada he would surrender himself; however he returned safe with Answers to his Letters to the great joy & Satisfaction of the Rebels, and brought two young Caghnawageys Indians with him, whom he said he prevailed upon to come and be Eye witnesses to the French Army & Navy cooperating with the Rebels, as the Mohawks & Whole Canada Indians would not believe it, and as soon as he had convinced those Lads that came with him, he would return again to Canada with them, to prove the Truth of his Assertion. ——

Mr. Stuart says he left Albany with at 20. or 25. Oneidas & other rebel Indians from Schenectady in order to join the French Rebel Armies, the remaining Indians he would not trust, they being disgusted & tired of the war, and the rebels also suspect their Fidelity. — Oghradoushon promises his Friends at Albany to be back, so as to go & return from Canada before the Winter sat in, he intended to see the Event of the Campaign if turn'd out in favor of the rebels, to carry the News to Canada with all the speed imaginable; N.B. it has been confidently wispered about in this Town that his Arrival has been impatiently looked for by the French sometime abt the Middle of Novem.r last, expecting by their Letters the Confirmation of Lord Cornwallis's defeat and his not arriving makes them quite silent, for the Indians might

might easily have come from Chesopeak to Canada betwn the 21st of October and the Beginning of November & return before the Ground was covered with Snow, for I believe they wod not venture to come after a fresh Kunsetted Snow, for altho there be but a few Mohawks here they keep the Rebel Inds in Awe, and was it not for their Example the Canada Inds would not even be of that Service they now are of to Govern

Mr Stuart after his Return from Quebec told me that he gave the chief part of the above Intelligence to his Excellcy General Haldimand, and that he was desired by him to acquaint me with it, and put me on my Guard to have a Lookout; accordingly I sent out two parties of Mohawks as if they were going on hunting; one party to the Environs of Point au Fer to reconnoitre from thence as far as the 1000 Islands, And the other to Chateaugay, the Road these Rebel Inds must come; The last party returned without discovering any thing, the former & strongest is not returned. I have likewise sent Capt Foker to Caghnawaga to visit his Acquaintance and bring on the Discourse abt Oghradous hon which accordingly he did, but could not find out the least hint of his having been in that Neighbourhood this Fall, and Agharegowa a principal Man of that Village declared at that Meeting that whenever he could find his being about there, he would have him taken, which Resolution he declared to me himself not long ago. — Last Spring before the Arrival of Oghradous hon in the Vicinity of Sault St Louis his Wife made an Attempt to tamper with a Mohawk Lad named Peter, whose Family have allways distinguished themselves with great Fidelity to Govermt, and he was the Boy that wounded & pursued Co. Warner last Summer a Year for abt 3 Miles all alone; The said Squaw meeting with the Lad & claiming a Relationship, asked him whether he would not conduct her Nephew down the Country where her Husband was, with Letters to him, Peter being a cunning smart Lad after Hesitating a little said Yes he would conduct her Nephew

when

when She told him She would let him know when her Nephew was ready. Peter when he came home told his Father of it and the chiefs were acquainted with it & plan was laid with the Lad to take a certain Tout, & party of Mohawks to way lay them & seize them & their packs & return to the Mohawk Village; Accordingly the next Time peter met the Squaw he asked her when he was to go, but whether she mistrusted him, or her Husband arrived at that Time: She told peter her Nephew was sick & could not go, when not long after the Nephew went off with Ogharadoushon and one Saderioushons Son who was awhile at Dartmouth College, and two other Caghnawagey Lads, with two latter went as far as Stony arbor where they asked for provisions, but being suspected were taken up and sent to Co: Campbell under a Guard; These were all the Indians that went from this Country with Ogharadoushon to Albany Where were joined by other Rebel Ind.s as above mentioned to proceed to the French and Rebel Generals & Admirals; and M.r Stuart is pretty sure they went upon no other Errand than the above said, but I dare say Schuyler would spare no Expence to get a Mohawk down to see French Fleet & Army, but M.r Stuart saw and knew all that embarked, and none of the Mohawks here were absent from home above 3. weeks wch was late in the Time of the Bateaux gathering. ——

The Second Channel for Intelligence the Rebels have, M.r Stuart says is St Francis, carried on by a Canadian Miss the Capt.n of Militias Son, who on his Arrival there is concealed in a Cave, and his Letters are sent by Emissaries to Three Rivers this place &c.a and on the receipt of the Answers he returns again; M.r Stuart was told in Schenectady that 3/4 Man had been twice at St Francis during the Course of last Summer.

And the Third Channel he heard was also carried on by Canadians living about Schenectady, who go to Chamblie to see what passes at St John & those parts. ——

M.r Stuart says that about 2 Year ago Louison the Negroe

undertook for Schuyler to burn the Shipping at St. Johns and endeavour the same at Carleton Island. —

243

Thus have I given you a tedious Detail of Mr. Stuarts Information as concise as in my power, by which I conceive the principal part of your Letter of 7. Jnr. has been answered.

As to any Mohawk Ind.s being privy to, or going upon treasonable Business or Messages from this to the Rebels I am allmost sure of the Contrary, and if the Canada Indians could amuse them with it they would not spare them there subsisting allways some Jealousy & Envy between them which I dont dislike as it excites an Emulation for the good of the Service. — As to Intermarriages between Mohawks & Sault St. Louis Indians, there have been but two since they are in Canada w.th Caghnaw.a Women, whom the Priest excommunicates and they are despised by that Nation and forbid their Village as Pamboli, in short there is very little Intercourse betw.een the Mohawks & Canada Ind.ns in general.

And as to the large Sums expended on those people; that is too large a field to enter upon at present, as the few Remarks I have to offer upon that head would still be too extensive for the Compass of this Letter. — All I can say now is that the first Complaint the Mohawks made to Mr. Stuart after his Arrival was that the Niagara and Canada Indians were so much better off than they with regard to fine Cloaths &c.a than they, tho many of the others did not deserve it, being wavering & indifferent at Service, when they from the Beginning of the Rebellion kept steady to their Fidelity for their Father the great King. —

I am with great Esteem D.r Sir

Your most Obedient and
humble Servant
D.l W.m Claus.

Joors Lr 1782

Spd. Glass

pgt. Jars Rec.d 15.

Santiago Left St. Jago de C. Jan.ry 1782

Niagara 22 Feb.y 1782

Sir

Yours of the 25th Jan.y came to Hand & am much Obliged to you for the Papers enclosed — I am Glad to See Matters from the Western Countries most of the Principal Chiefs of the Six Nations were Present when Delivered by the Onondagas last Fall & Immediately addressed the Commander in Chief to have entered upon a Copy or the Substance of their Discourse that were sent to Genl Haldimand late in the Fall the Indns giving any Answer to their Western Brethren till they Relate the Commander in Chief, and as Yet no Opportunity —

We are Perfectly Quiet not the least News from any Quarter of the World Except that an Oneyda man taken Near Albany Arrived Brought us (I hope) a Budget of Lyes which I have Carried among his Countrymen but little Regarded how ever

I am Sir
your most Obed.t & Humble
Servt
Sig.d John Butler

the budget was a part by L.d Cornwallis having fallen into the hands of the Enemy.

Major Depeyster

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Col. Butlers

Letter

In Council, Detroit Feb.y 25. 1782

Present

Major Arnt. S.r DePeyster, Commandt.

Captain Henry Bird
Lieut.s Lamorey
A. Saund.s Brooks
Daniel Mercer
Ensigns MacDougal
Robert Pollard
W.m B. Meehan
P. A. Frey
} Kings, or 8.th Reg.t

Captain William Caldwell
Lieut.t Thomas Butler
Ralfe Clench
} Butlers Rang.rs

Lieut.t Poole England 47.th Regim.t

Dufpron Baby
Isidore Chesne
Charles Baubin
} Sworn Interpreters

Schoch, pi, ney — —
Chin, chauk, equan, alias, the Grass
} Chiefs of the Mascoutins

Pe, pa, kish, ay, ya
Peh, co, nish, i, mey
} Chiefs of the Lic, gu, a boues

Majr DePeyster addressing himself to the Chiefs & Warriors of the Lic gu, a bous and Mascoutin Nations. Children! I hear it

it is your desire that I should call you my Children it is this day I call you so, as it gives you pleasure - Two days are now elapsed since you told me you were in want of every thing and delivered over to me two of my People who deserted from the Enemy, you also informed me that the Enemy have Deserted Post Vincennes and were in the greatest want of every necessary of life - you asked me for many things and asserted that you were entitled to a supply of necessaries as some of your People were now at War against the Rebels towards the Falls of the Ohio — it is well that You commence following the Example of your Brethren by acting against the Kings Enemies. you should have done so long since and I would have taken care to prevent your wants by maintaining the Miamis Town, - in order to render yourselves happy in future you must on your return to your Villages send Deputies to your several Nations that border the Wabash and inform them that Since the Rebels have Defeated the Post you are determined not to let them retreat amongst you and send Deputies to this place to acquaint me with their Sentiments — if I withheld the Traders from amongst your People it is to avoid injuring you by putting an Axe in to the hands of the Enemy to Strike at me and my Children, what I have now recommended to you is not difficult on your parts to perform which is

is to keep back the Enemy should they attempt to come up the Ouabash, or by land on your, the Situation of your Country admits of it. for you see that the Delawares keep their Grounds clear for should the Enemy return hereafter and I get information thereof I shall then naturally think that any Children in that quarter are a Sleep or wish to be so and it will then be out of my power to send them Traders to supply them with their Necessaries, for you plainly see that the Enemy is too far distant that Indians have anything to apprehend from them and that it is for your good only I give this advice and I hope you'll advantage therefrom — that your People may not be ignorant of your English Father being strongly united with the brown skins in general you see here Deputies of the Six Nations Ottawas from Michilimackinac and others too tedious to mention who are always here to testify that the English and the Indian Nations are but one and why should not you the Sac, you Ayoues, Mascoutins and those who border the Ouabash follow their example — as you are come in to see me I shall Order such things

as is proper for you but with respect to Ammunition & Necessaries for those who are absent I cannot allow of any waste I see them here as it seldom is properly divided therefore whenever I hear you are sincerely engaged in the war and you shew yourselves in Numbers I shall then take the opportunity to give such ammunition and Cloathing as is necessary for you —

Children! On your return I request of you to tell the Delattanongs those that killed M.Carty and made Two Prisoners last Year "that I do not approve of their manner of making war as I am informed that they had taken a French man in the same Action and allowed him to return home again, this is not acting according to my orders it is your duty as Warriors to make all Prisoners you can who appear in arms agt. the King your Father —

Delivered Several Strings of wampum for Each Nation

Capt. Joseph Brant alias Thayendanega then Speaks to the Iniquakono Mahicanders and others who border the Ouabash — Brethren! We are glad

to see you before our father, we who address you are of the Six nations who live on this side of the Lake you see here who are depend upon this is our Father who supplies us with our wants, we are pleased with what your father told you who we call brother. it is from him however we Brownskins should take the lead Since we make but one with him and those who are under him, we Invite you brethren by these few words which we now Say, to attend to what Your father has said and not listen any more to the Rebels, lest we who have not too much Sense may fall out with each other should we not think with our father, we Speak but little as we are Warriours therefore take the hint from us who know the disposition of the Americans and those from whom we come —

The mingasey or Ottawaa from Michilimackinac Says —

Brethren from the Wabash

Listen to what I shall say which is to recommend to you to pray

a

a proper attention to what our father has said in your regard since your complaints of your Misery it is your duty to perform his will and treat your yourselves of becoming happy — Our father said true when he told you that he and his Children the Iroquois make but one, as he is our Support and that of our Wives and Children —

A Iniquaboes Chief in the name of his nation and that of the Massoutens says

Fathers. We are highly pleased with what we have heard from you and the Sentiments of our elder Brethren the Six Nations in our behalf. we have to return you our thanks for the freedom-ness you have made known your's to us — all of which we shall on our return communicate to our People and we expect to benefit thereby —

Extract from the Minutes

J. Schieffelin
Secry

I afterwards sent for Mr Taylor and demanded a Sight of his Books, which he very readily produced, but as I was not very Conversant with Accounts, I begged the favor of Captain Parke, to assist me in the inspection of them, and annexed you have the result of it, which is written by Captain Parke, as the Ships was ready to Sail and I had other letters to write.

I should the steps I have taken not prove Satisfactory I should imagine, as Mr Taylor is going down to Canada, the best way would be to order his Books to be sent after him, where they might be perused and audited

I am Sir &c (Signed) H. Watson Powell

No 4

Niagara November 13th 1781

Sir

I have the honor to inform you that the Troops returned here yesterday from the Expedition on the Mohawk River — As Major Ross has informed your Excellency fully of the particulars of it, I shall not trouble you with repetitions. Captain Butler, who behaved very gallantly, was unfortunately killed, at the passage of Canada Creek, and Lieutenant Docksteder died before the Troops had advanced far into the Country, which occasions two Vacancies in the Corps of Rangers ——— From some accounts I had received, there was Room to imagine the Caldwell and Batteaux might fall into the Enemys Hands, but the former arrived here yesterday with some Soldeans and Captain Fiw, who informs me that out of Seventeen batteaux they had brought down eleven to Oswego, and had destroyed the rest for want of hands to bring them off — He also informs me that thirteen of the Rangers, who were returned missing by Major Ross, had joined the Indians at Oswego, and I think it is very probable a good many more will come in, as most of those returned missing seperated from their Party, after they had passed Canada Creek. I have the honor to be &c Signed H. Watson Powell

Niagara March 23d 1782

No 5

Sir

I had yesterday the honor of receiving your Excellencys Dispatches of the 8th Ultimo by Lieutenant Fenwy, who also brought those of the 16th of November last, sent up to Carleton Island last Fall.

You may be assured Sir, that nothing shall be wanting on my part to promote your Excellency's plans, and that a Detachment shall be sent from hence agreable in every respect to the order, and that every thing shall be supplied which this post can afford. Major Ross mentions that he will have every thing ready by the first of April, but from the present Severity of the Season, there is not the least appearance of the Communications being open before the 15th He does not say what number of Indians he would wish to have, but I shall detain Schanadaraghty, who was preparing to go to the Neighbourhood of Fort Stanwix with 200 of the best Warriors, so he may have as many as he thinks will be necessary ——— The Indians sent out last Fall were certainly very indifferent,

(4)

indifferent, but the express was so late in arriving here and the time appointed for their assembling at Oswego so limited, that it would not admit of sending out for better. ——— Those that will be sent upon this occasion, I dare say will not be found wanting in any respect —— No intelligence which can be depended upon, has been brought in this winter. I did not therefore trouble your Excellency with an Express. I now send the inclosed the I was informed last November, you had received similar accounts.

Several small parties of Rangers were sent out last Fall solely to procure intelligence, with orders not to bring in recruits, but none of them having returned makes me apprehend they have fallen into the Enemy's Hands. There are also several small Scouts of Indians out. Captain David of the Mohawks went to Schoharie and we must certainly have heard from him before now, had he not either have been taken, or delayed by the badness of the weather. —— I shall send an Express immediately for Captain Brant, but I am informed there is some doubt whether he will ever recover the perfect use of his leg. ——— Colonel Butler has applied for leave for Captain McDonel, who is Pay Master to go to Montreal on the Regiments business, and also for Captain Dame to go for his Family. Should either of them be employed upon this present occasion, I beg to be informed if you approve of their going ——— I take the liberty to remind your Excellency of the Surgeons Mate. A Major is also very much wanted as Colonel Butler is a good deal taken up with the Indian Department.

I am &c. Signed / H. Watson Powell

P.S. I have been obliged to supply the Indian Department with 23 Barrells of Powder

Niagara May 17th. 1782

No. 6

Sir

I have the Honor to transmit the Copy of a Letter from Lieut. Colonel Butler, by which your Excellency will see to what a very low ebb the Indian Store has been reduced, and the absolute necessity there was to make some purchases; for after the misfortune of Lord Cornwallis, which was soon made known to the Indians by some Rebel Prisoners, from whom offers were made to them, it became necessary to pay more attention to them, and as I thought it would be very impolitick to risk the defection of the Six Nations for a trifle, after such immense sums had been lavished upon them, I could not avoid acquiescing with some purchase being made, and have not the least doubt of its meeting with your approbation, as your Excellency has very lately observed, that "we are governed by Contingencies, not Contingencies by us". The arrival of Mr. Dease yesterday with some Indian Presents, renders the purchasing some Mr. Thompsons unnecessary, unless you wish to have them; for Colonel Butler informs me they may be purchased very cheap as Mr. Thompson is obliged to make remittances, and it is impossible for him to dispose of them for some time, unless Government purchases

Niagara. Mar: 23. 1782.

Sir,

I had yesterday the honor of receiving your Excellency's Dispatches of the 18th Ult: by Lieutenant Sharp, who also brought those of the 16th of Nov. last, sent up to Carleton Island last Fall.

You may be assured, Sir, that nothing shall be wanting on my part to promote your Excellency's Plan, and that a Detachment shall be sent from Lake Champlain in every respect to the order, and that every thing shall be supplied, which this Post can afford.—

Major Ross mentions that he will have every thing ready by the first of April, but from the greatest severity of the frost, there is not the least appearance of the communication being open before the 15th— He does not say what number of Batteaux he would want to Lewis, but I shall detain the Batteaux lately, who

His Excellency
General Haldimand.

was

was preparing to go into the Neighbourhood of Fort Pitt with 200 of the best Warriors, in that he may have as many as he thinks will be necessary.

The Indians sent out last Fall were certainly very indifferent; but the Express was so late in arriving here and the time appointed for their assembling at Oswego so limited, that it would not admit of sending out for better. — Those that will be sent upon this occasion, I dare say will not be found wanting in any respect.

No intelligences, which can be depended upon, has been brought in this winter. I did not therefore trouble your Excellency with an express. I now send the inclosed. Tho' I was informed last November, you had received similar accounts.

Several small parties of Rangers were sent out last Fall solely to procure intelligence, with orders not to bring in recruits, but some of them having returned without me. abbreviated They have fallen into the Enemy's Hands.

There

There are also several small scouts of Indians out.
Captain David of the Mohawks went to Schohary and
we must certainly have heard from him before now,
had he not either been taken or delayed by the
badness of the weather.

I shall send an express off immediately for Captain
Brant, but I have been informed there is some doubt
whether he will ever recover the perfect use of his leg.

Colonel Butler has applied for leave for Captain
Mc Donnel, who is Pay Master to go to Montreal on the
Regiment's business, and also for Captain Dane to go for
his family. — Should neither of them be employed upon the
present occasion, I beg to be informed if you approve of
their going. — I take the liberty to remind your Excellency
of the Surgeon's mate. A Major is also very much wanted as
Colonel Butler is a good deal taken up with the Indian Department.

With great respect I have the Honor to be

Sir, Your Excellency's.

most obedient and
most humble Servant.

Walter Butler

P.S.
I have been obliged to
supply the Indian Department
with 23 barrels of powder.

Invoice [illegible] 1782.

B. Gun Powder

23d. March Rec.d 5th May

Copy.

I shew Johnson to return, accompanied with his observations of the measures that had been pursued, and a letter to me for the dividing the Indians between Niagara Carleton Island & an Account of Provisions — about this time an Officer of my Department with few Indians, who were advanced a few Miles in front of a Body of Rangers, captured three Armed Rebels who had been reconnoitering and as their party took a Rebel Sergeant, from whom we learned that the Rebels had reinforced the environs of Fort Stanwix with 600 men and had notice of our Motions mentioning particularly my own, Sir John Johnson in consequence of his Orders, as well as that the Party by Land had not been able to come up, accordingly decamped, and returned to their place on the 28th Ultimo where I have been a good deal occupied in endeavoring to form an opinion of the Indians to send a large body of their People down to Carleton Island for the Winter which they do not much incline to, as their late losses induce them to be more united, however their number is now reduced to 2628 — The Majority of whom will remain hereabouts, and from the situation to which they have been reduced thro' their attachment and Sacrifices to Government, I humbly conceive they are intitled to every mark of Attention that can be afforded as well from principles of Justice as Policy, I propose to employ them usefully in the Communications during the Winter, and I will use my Endeavor for keeping up their Spirits and preserving their Attachment to Government which has hitherto proved of so much use to His Majesty's Interests, and on which the safety of this Country so much depends — It is an Arduous undertaking I know their late losses, but I enter on it with Confidence, in the expectation of your Lordships Countenance, and I persuade myself, if measures can be taken next Spring for re-establishing Fort Ontario (which they have much at Heart) and Supporting His Majesty's Arms with a proper Body of Troops, they will not a little Contribute to their Success ——— I cannot conclude without recommending the good Conduct of all my Officers, to His Majesty, because I am convinced they have in their respective Stations Acquitted themselves with as much Zeal, and performed as much as any other Subjects of the King, and whilst the good of the Service requires my recommending what was mentioned in my last, to his Royal Consideration respecting myself, I cannot avoid doing that Justice to their merits Which they have faithfully deserved — I request to be honored with your Lordships Commands — I am my Lord &c Signed/ Guy Johnson

To His Excellency Frederick Haldimand Esq
General and Commander in Chief of all His Majesty's Forces in the Province of Quebec & the Frontiers thereof &c &c &c

The Memorial of Colonel Guy Johnson His Majesty's Sole Agent, and Superintendant of Indian Affairs for the Six Nations and their Confederates

Humbly Sheweth

That your Memorialist having agreeable to your Excellency's Order, attended the Indians, on their Expedition of the Account

of Messrs Taylor and Forsyth on an Accusation of Fraud therein, is now Constrained to represent to your Excellency how much he is hurt as an Officer, and a man of Honor, at some Expressions reported to him to have been dropped lately in a Court of Justice, maliciously tending to insinuate Collusive dealings, with others. He is likewise credibly informed by his Officers that several Indians have with much concern spoke to them of a Report circulated among them, that himself and the Officers have been disgraced, all tending most ungenerously to injure the reputation and destroy the influence of your Memorialist ——— Your Excellency's love of Justice and tender regard for the Character of an Officer will easily suggest to Your Sense, how painfull the like Reports must be to a man of honor, and particularly so to a Person at the head of a Department, whose known Sacrifices for Government were very considerable, and very chearfully made, whose duties were laborious and successfull and his Character in all Moneid Concerns irreproachable ——— Your Memorialist, is therefore constrained to apply to your Excellency, in thorough Confidence of your Goodness Justice, and Impartiality, that you will be so Indulgent to Your Memorialist as to acquaint him whether he is considered to have failed in his Duty, to the best of his Judgment and Abilities, That his conduct may be explained and Justified in your Excellencys Opinion.

And your Memorialist will &c

(Signed) G. Johnson

Montreal 24th March 1782

A Review of Colonel Johnsons Transactions

Before Colonel Johnsons arrival at Niagara in 1779 the Six Nations lived on their Original Possessions, the nearest of which was about 100, and the furthest about 300 Miles from that Post — Their Warriors were called upon as the Service required Parties which in 1776 amounted to about 70 Men (the Expenses attending them and a few occasional meetings) ought to have been, and the presents were a mere Trifle when compared with what must attend their Situation when all driven to Niagara, exposed to every want, to every Temptation, and with every claim which their distinguished Sacrifices and the Terror of Solemn Treaties had entitled them to from Government — The Years 1777 & 1778 exhibited only a large Number occasionally employed, and for their Fidelity and attachment to Government they were invaded in 1779, by a Rebel Army reported to be from 5 to 600 men (with a Train of Artillery) who forced them to retire to Niagara leaving behind them very fine Plantations of Corn and Vegitables with their Cloathing, Arms Silver Works, Wampum, Kettles and Implements of Husbandry, the collection of Ages, all which were destroyed in a deliberate Manner by the Rebels, Two Villages only escaped that were out of their Route — The Indians having always

always apprehended that these distinguished Loyalty might draw some such Calamity upon them, had stipulated that under such circumstances they expected to have their Losses made up, as well as a liberal continuation of Pay and to be supported at the Expence of Government, till they could be reinstated in their former professions, they were accordingly ordered to form Camps around Niagara, which they were beginning to do at the time of Colonel Johnson's arrival, who found them much Chagrined, and prepared to reconcile them to their disasters, which he foresaw would be a work of time, requiring great Judgment and address in effecting which he was afterwards successfull beyond his most sanguine expectations, and this was the State of the Indians at Colonel Johnsons arrival ——— As to the State and regulation of Colonel Johnson's Office and Department at that period, he found the duties performed by two or three persons, the most little acquainted with them and considered as less capable of learning them, and the whole number inadequate to that of the Indians, and the then requisite calls of the Service, and that it was necessary after relieving the present wants of the Indians to keep their minds occupied by constant Military Employment, all which he laid before the Commander in Chief who frequently honored his Conduct with particular approbation.

By his Instructions he was to apply to Lieut. Colonel Butler, more especially regarding the Modes of the Sale, and the Public Accounts from whom he received no further information than that they were kept and made up by the Established Store at that Post, and consisted of Goods, Orders and all Contingencies & Disbursements for Indians, Ranging Parties, Prisoners &c. That they were generally Arranged half Yearly, as well as the nature of them, and of the changeable people they had to deal with would permit, That he believed many demands were therefore outstanding and that he was glad to have done with passing as it was impossible for him or any person that had other duties to discharge to give them much attention, at which Colonel Johnson expressed his Concern but was told that the Store was established in the business, and that the impossibility of having proper circulating Cash in another Channel, they advanced all Monies, and settled all Accounts, and that, that Mode had been found most Eligible Colonel Johnson thereupon issued the best Orders he could devise for the preventing abuses, and the better regulation of matters relating to Goods, payment of Expenses, and proceeding to the discharge of the principal Objects of his duty he according to a plan long since proposed formed the Indians into Companies, and by degrees taught them to see the convenience of having Officers set apart to each, which they were soon not only reconciled to, but highly pleased with, by which means he gave some degree of method and form to the most Independant Race of the Indians, greatly facilitated all business with them, and by a prudent arrangement of his Officers, throw

who

who were he soon informed, became in a little time one of the most informed and useful persons in his Department; being constantly Quartered at such Posts, as stood in such Places as tended most to their improvement and the public Advantage; whilst by skirmishing up and annoying the Indians with constant parties along the Frontiers from Fort Stanwix to Fort Pitt he so harrassed the back Settlements as finally to drive Numbers of them from their Plantations, destroying their Houses, Mills, Granaries &c and frequently defeating their Scouting Parties killing and Captivating many of their people amounting in the whole to near 900, and all this with few or no Instances of Savage Cruelty exclusive of what they performed when assisted by His Majesty's Troops, as will appear from his Returns; By these means he preserved the Spirit of the Indians and kept their minds so occupied as to prevent their being disgusted at the want of Military Aid, which had been long their Object, and which could not then be afforded according to their requisitions; neither did he omit any point of Negociation during this period of speculative hurry; for knowing the importance, the Enemies Pt view of to the Rebels, and the obstruction they gave to all means of intelligence from that Quarter he sent a private Belt and Message on pretence of former Friendship for them, in consequence of which he was shortly joined by 430 of them of which 130 were men who have since on all occasions peculiarly distinguished themselves; and after defeating the Object of the Rebel Invitation to the Indians, he by the renewal of the great Covenant Chain, and War Belt (which he sent thro all the Nations) gave animation to the most Western Indians.

Soon after with intention to reduce the vast consumption of Provisions, he with much difficulty prevailed on part of the Indians to begin some New Plantations that they might supply themselves with Grain &c but this being an Object of the most serious and National Concern, and urged in the strongest Terms by the Commander in Chief, Colo Johnson during the Winter 1780, took indefatigable pains to persuade the whole to remove and settle the ensuing Season on Advantageous Tracts of Land, he had himself Visited for that purpose, but finding that their Treaties with, and Expectations from Government, combined with their natural Indolence to render it a matter of infinite difficulty, which would encrease by delay, and probably become unsurmountable, he procured some Grain from Detroit and liberally rewarded the Families of Influence at additional Expence to set the Example to the rest, and assisted their beginnings to prevent a disappointment by which means he was enabled before the end of May last to settle on the whole about 3500 Souls (exclusive of those who had joined the Two Towns that had not been destroyed by the Rebels) and thereby with a little future assistance and good management to create a saving of £100,000 p Annm N York Currency at the rate Provisions is worth there to Government together with a Reduction of Rum, and of all Indian Expences, as will appear from the reduced Amount of Accounts since these Settlements were made.

The

The peculiar circumstances before mentioned and the constant disappointment of Goods from the Crown at the terms they were most wanted will easily account for the occasional Expence; The House which conducted the business at Niagara was perpetually thronged by Indians, and others, Sir William Colonel Bolton often sent Verbal Orders for Articles, as did some others, Sometimes necessity required it, and often they were changed and others substituted of equal Value, with many other irregularities the consequence of a Croud of Indians before unknown, of an encrease of duties, and the necessity for sending them to please will satisfied. —— The number of Prisoners thrown upon Colonel Johnson from Time to Time, and of Indian Chiefs and their families about his Quarters, was attended with vast trouble and an Expence which it was impossible to ascertain with exactness, and when he directed the Moiety of certain Articles of Consumption to be placed to the Account of the Crown, he soon found himself a loser — The Merchants have since been accused of fraud, by a Clerk who lived some time with them, the Investigation of which he was called Suddenly to attend, and he now finds that many Articles undoubtedly if used have been placed to his Account instead of the Crown, and many false & malicious insinuations circulated to the prejudice of his Character and of his influence with the Indians, which is rendered the more injurious, by his absence departure from the shortness of the time which did not permit his Calling & explaining to the Chiefs, the reasons for his leaving them, as undoubtedly should have been done, and therefore and on every public Account his presence is not only effected, but is become more necessary among them than ever. This brief memory is candidly prepared and is capable of sufficient proof and Illustration.

Montreal 24th March 1782

Detroit the 3 April 1782

Dear Sir.

I have waited in daily expectation to hear from you agreeably to your kind letter of Report spread in this place (which came from Fort Pitt) that Lord Cornwallis surrendered his little army & Washington has besieged him in York-Town and Gloucester Virginia. The same reports say that the six Nations have offered to make peace with the Americans; upon hearing this I spoke to Brant upon the subject, who says he'll forfeit his life if it is not true, unless it has been done by some of the

[illegible] appears to mean upon the
says he'll forfeit his life if it is not true,
unless it has been done by some of the
Indians in the neighbourhood of Fort Pit-
where he says there are a few families
of the Six nations who have been neuter during the
war.

We have had no express from
Canada yet therefore are in the dark of what
is going on there. The inclosed sheet will
let you into what was the sentiments of the
Indians at Niagara last fall. If the accounts
from fort Pit concerning Lord Cornwallis be true
it may make them alter their ideas. I know not
be the best judge whether it communicated the
resolutions of the Assembly or not. I

said

Alex. McKee Esq.

120

have Ought best not to say anything to the Indians but all Clear further Council give the Reason to the Enemy.

Mr Lawrence will send you this Letter to whom I owe and for the Skills and Canoes sold, which may be at the Fleuve this may have occasion for in case of an Expedition towards L.C.

Your Friends here are well and hope to hear in Compy to you —

Jam Sir

Your most Humble
Servt

I am Sir

Your most Humble
Servt

C. A. P. DeLeyster

ARCHIVES PROVINCIALES PUBLIC ARCHIVES CANADA

Mrs. Col. Myers

Niagara 30th Sept. 1782

Sir,

I have the honor to transmit some intelligence which I lately received.—

Major Ross has informed me of his having taken Post at Oswego, and desired that I would send him a few Indians with the Detachments, which it was utterly out of my power at that time to do, even if the Chiefs could have consented thereto. For the Indians in general were so much hurt at the unfavorable and unmerited report Major Ross made of their behaviour last Fall to your Excellency, that they refused to serve under him; tho' they at the same time expressed their attachment to Government and their willingness to go any where else.— However upon my calling the Chiefs together the affair was settled, and Sinquadeh goes off this day in the Caldwell with twenty Indians,

His Excellency
General Haldimand.

which

which were all that were ready, and in two or three days Captain Sharp will set off with thirty or forty more in canoes.

As Major Ross took Serjt Seacord and a party of picked Rangers with him to Oswego, which I sent down last month with the express, he could be the less at a loss in regard to scouts.

He Major informs me he had received accounts from the Mohawk River of the 2d Inst. of the Enemy's intention to invade Canada early in the Summer, and that they were to take the field the 20th of April to attack this Post, but he says he takes it for granted their Force will not be pointed against Oswego, and begs a body of Indians may be sent to join him by the 10th Inst. and tho' his intelligence differs from that I now send your Excellency, I have sent to the Villages to collect the Indians, that they may be ready to act as exigencies may require.

The Communication with Detroit is not yet open, as soon as it does I expect to see Captain Bennet.

A Runner is this moment come in from Caraugoras with a letter from Lt Jervis, which mentions that a Scout had come in with two scalps and a prisoner, below Browne's Creek on the 30th Inst. who informs that the Rebels had sawed and carried down a great number of boards last winter to Schenectady, to build a store for the provisions intended for an Army to go to Canada this summer.

I have the Honor to be with great respect,

Sir,

Your Excellency's,

most obedient

&

most humble Servant.

P. Weston Stark

From A 1782.

B. Genl. Powell

30th Apriel Recd. 12th May

Niagara May 11th 1782

Sir,

On the 9th Inst I had the honor of your Excellency's letter of the 2d Inst: covering extracts from Sir Henry Clinton's letter, which I immediately forwarded to Detroit; and as the intelligence contained in my letter of the 5th Inst as well as that I received corresponds with those extracts, I yesterday sent off Lt Givens with 24 Rangers, which were intended to relieve an equal number of the late Capt Thompson's Company, but I have now desired Major De Peyster to keep the whole if he finds it absolutely necessary, and proposes to complete them to the number mentioned by your Excellency when I receive advice of the Enemy's advancing in force.

But I must beg leave to observe that this Post rather requires to be reinforced, than detachments to be sent from it, particularly as Captain Jolliffe's

His Excellency
General Haldimand.

intelligence

intelligence respecting the Enemy's intentions against it, and should they propose only a diversion it will be necessary to support the Indians, tho' very little assistance can be expected from us in our present state.

I have sent some more Indians to Oswego, but have detained Captain Brant and several others, who wanted to go, as it is possible there may be other employment for them.

I have received a letter from Captain Stevenson of the 34th Regiment, who commands at Carleton Island; he complains of the weakness of the Garrison, which is composed mostly of Invalids and scarcely equal to the interior Duty of the Post, and as he will sometimes be obliged to send Escorts with Prisoners, Your Excellency may probably think it right to order part of Sir John Johnson's second Battalion to remain there.

I

I send down Lt. Van. Camp and 14 other Prisoners by the Seneca and as the intelligence he gave is of such a Nature that it will be necessary before I transmit it. —

John Rose of the Rangers and his Wife are also sent for the murder of Thomas M.c Cormick of the Corps and five Loyalists are sent away to save provisions.

I have the Honor to be with great respect.

Sir,

Your Excellency's.

most obedient

&

most humble Servant.

Alexander Grant

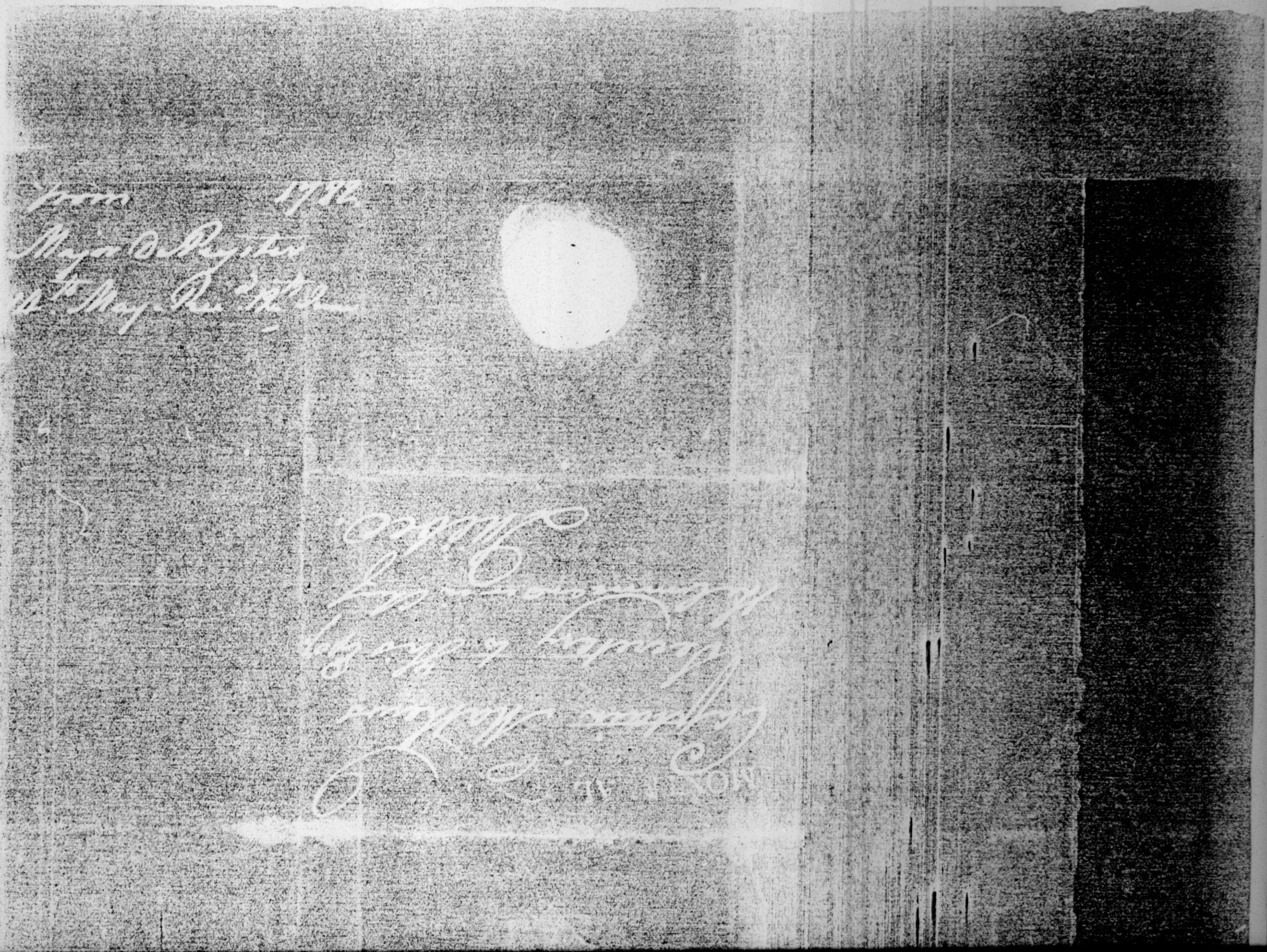
From Mr 1752.
B. G. Powell
11th May - Rec.d 20.d

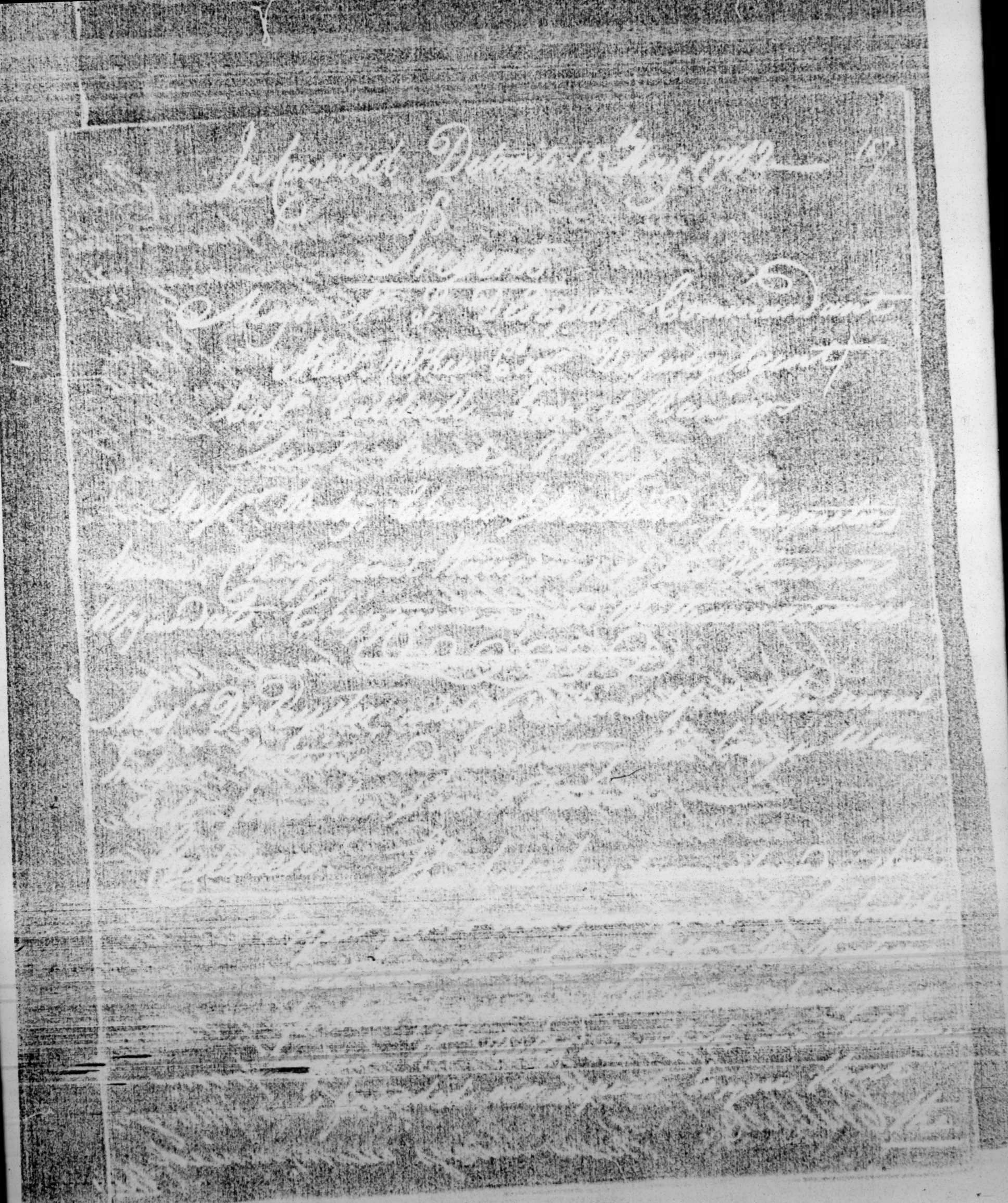
1782

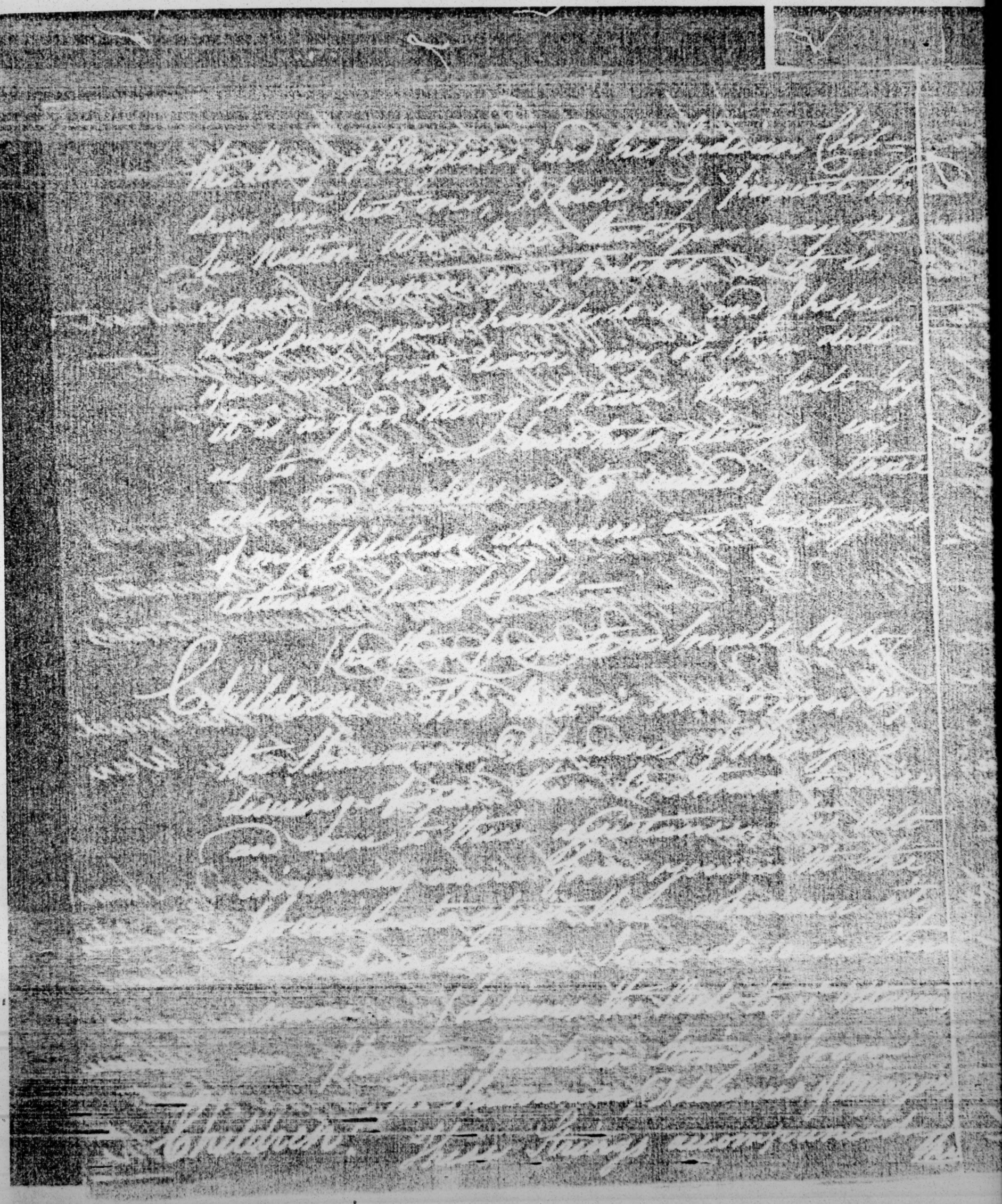
From
Col. Wilkinson
9th May

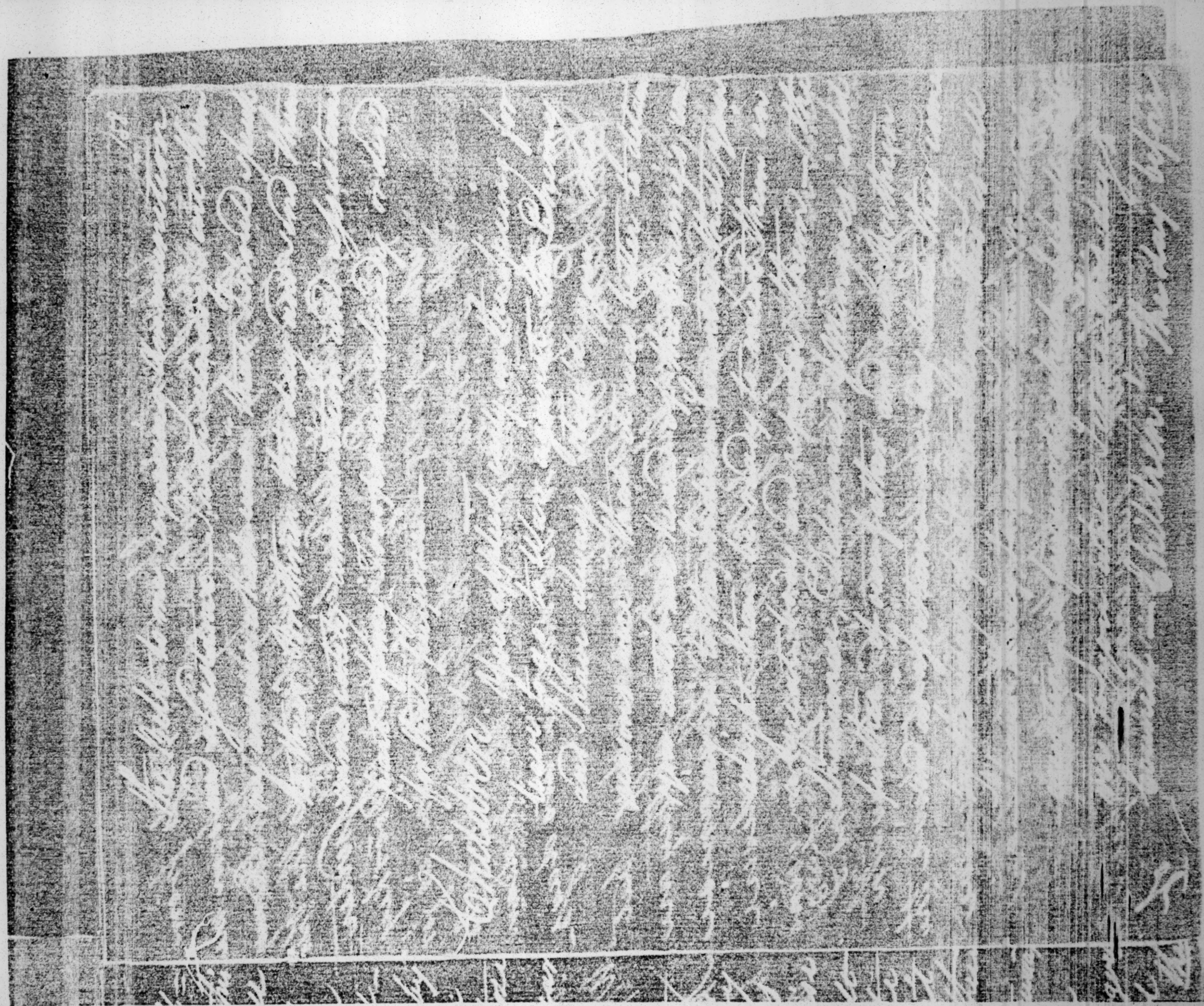
Extract of Mr Dease's Letter to Col.o Johnson
Dated Carleton Island May 15th 1792. -

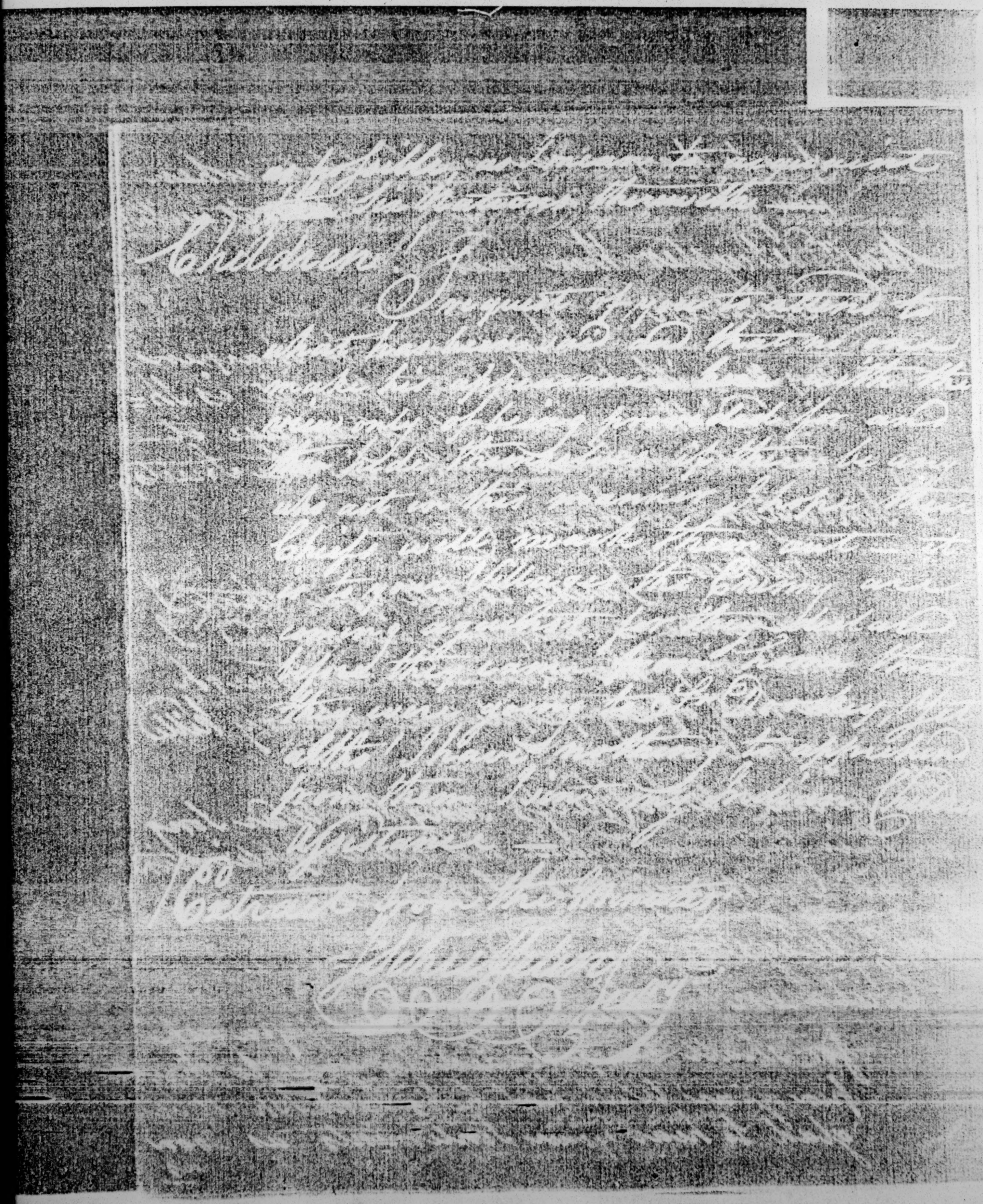
" The Indians being highly offended at May's Rep.t
Report of them last Expedition, and also displeased at
the absence of their principal Officers have unanimously
refused coming to Oswego, where they have but about 16.
or 20 Miscisagas Mothers who did not well know (at
embarking) the Service they were destined for. I am also
informed that Major Ross has written to Niagara, to
Detain the first Party to bring them down, how he
will succeed is not known, they are much wanted there
Intelligence from Niagara has brought in Mr Forsyth who
run in last Night from Detroit and was arrived at Niagara

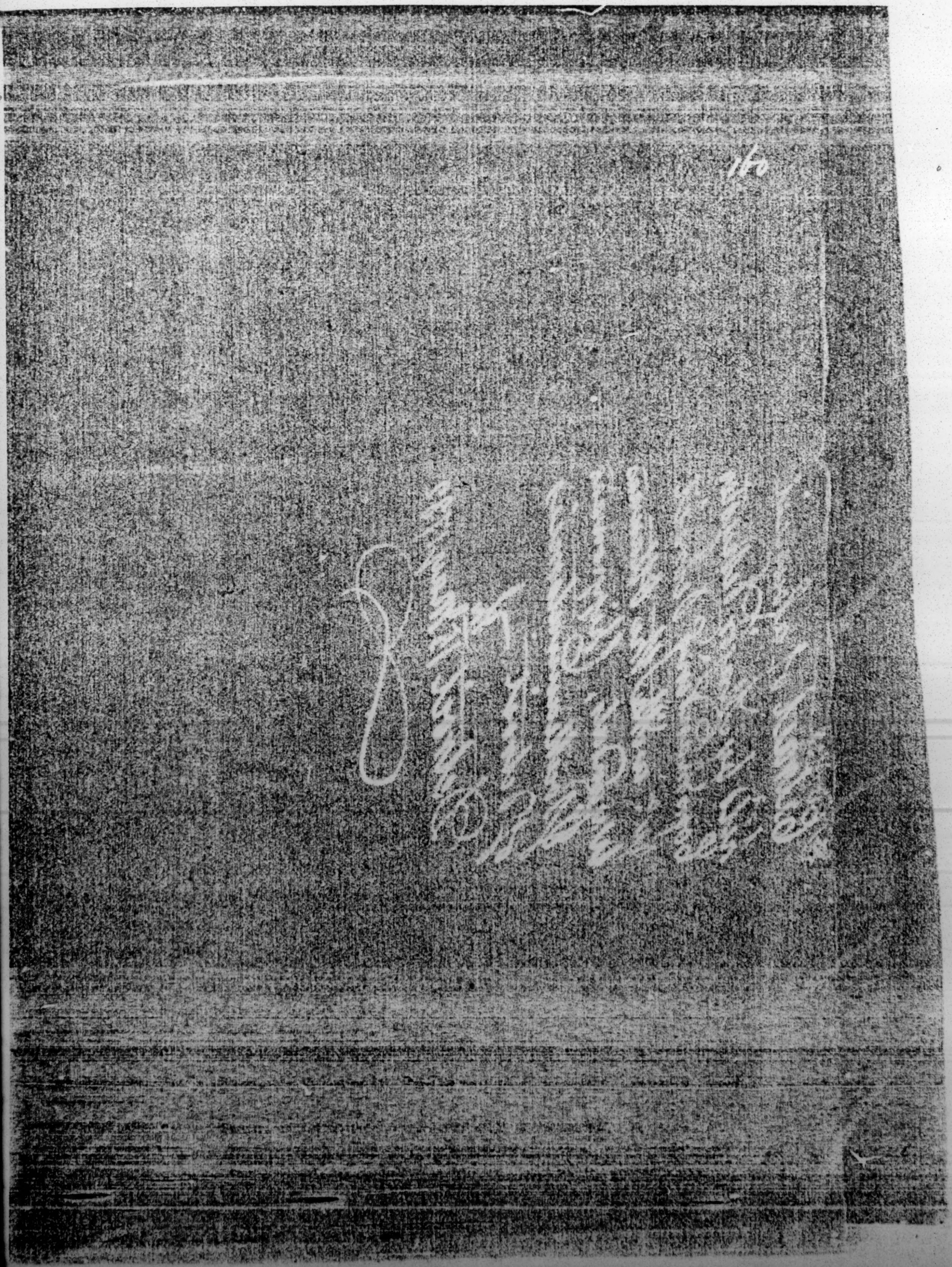


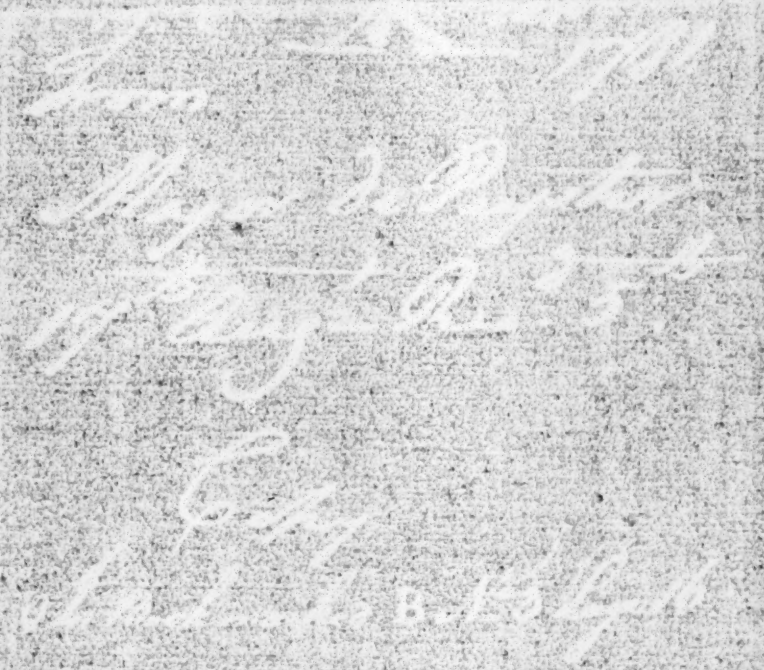


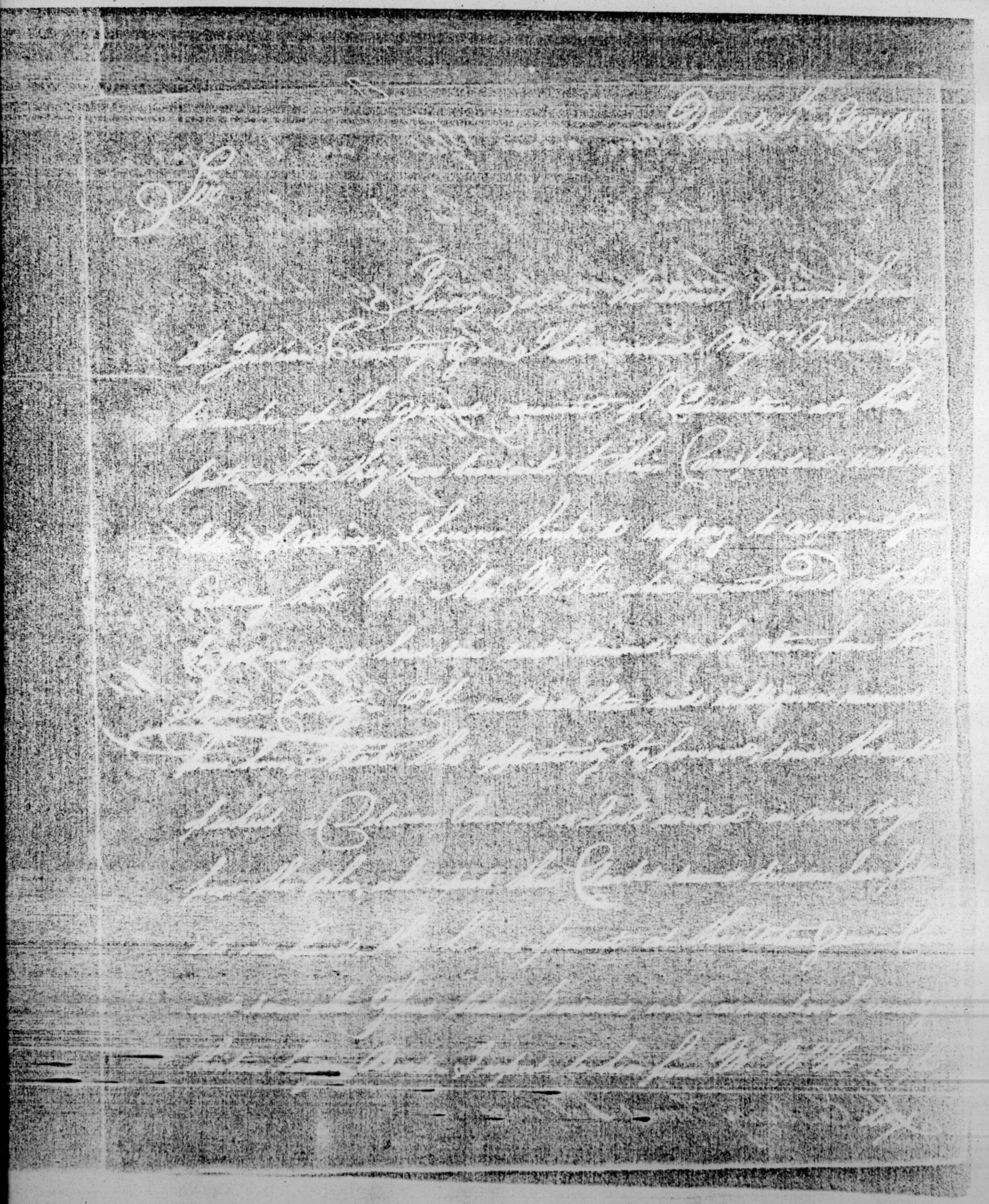












In Council Detroit May 17th 1792

Present

Major Genl Scuyler  Prytler, Commandt.

Duperon Baby
Pierre Drouillard } Interpreters
Isidore Chesne

Three Chiefs just arrived from Niagara, —
Ottawaas, Chippewaas, Poutawattamies, Hurons
and Miamis —

a Six Nation Chief Speaks on Strings

Brother! We Chiefs of the Oneida Tuscaroras and Cayahuga Nation just arrived from our people at Niagara take the earliest opportunity to salute you and proceed with our usual custom of inviting you with a Spunk to clear your Eyes and Ears, and the Ground about you that every thing be smooth as ever, and above all to sooth your grief for the loss of any of your people during the War, remember Brother! we who speak to you are the nearest allied to Great Britain.

— 3 Strings Wampum —

Brother! You cannot be ignorant of our Voyage hither as no doubt he who sent us must have wrote to you on the Subject —

Majr DeLyster replied " he had a letter on the Subjett and would be glad to hear it from their own mouths —

The Six Nation Chief then said on several Strings, —

Brothr

One side of these Strings is to Salute you, and the other Side is to salute the several Nations in order that both you and they may listen and be pleased with the Speech we have to deliver from the Six Nation —

delivers 1st Strings

he then Speaks on several Strings

Brothr These Strings are to inform you what I'm come upon, being Deputed by the Six Nations to return an answer to the Speech you and the Indian Nations had sent to us last year requesting of us the Six Nations to Join our Forces with you against Fort Pitt, it was with pleasure that we recived your invitation and we would have put your request in execution had not the reports of Deserters and Prisoners given the General reason to believe that the Enemy were making attempts on our Quarter he therefore sent his people to fortify Oswego and our People went to cover those who were to work —

Brothers!

Your Speech will never theless be kept with us untill next

a time that we know what the Enemy are doing and should they not come in to our Quarter we shall then be ready to join you in any undertaking which may tend to the common Good —
I am also desired to tell you "that in a short time there will come a Deputation to take the Petticoats from off our Grand Fathers the Delawares —

Brother

We inform you with much pleasure that the Report which was spread about by some bad Birds that we the Six Nations were inclined to assist the Rebels is false and so far to the contrary that we are now heartily engaged than ever

Major DePuyster then said

Brothers the Six Nations

It gives me always pleasure when I see a Deputation from your Quarter I therefore Salute you —

Brothers! I have long since expected your answer on the Speech sent from home last year but the Vessel which came here yesterday brought me letters from the General which satisfied me on that

that Subject, you being engaged elsewhere as you now tell me in covering Oswego while your Brethren the English were fortifying, however I am glad that you are here to inform the Several Indian Nations by your own mouths the reason you did not immediately enter into their Scheme —

The Six Nation Chief then said

Brother

You are now made acquainted with the cause of our Journey and we shall now proceed to make it known to our Brethren your Children —

Extract from y^e^ Minutes

J Schuyler Secy.

1

Office of Ed. Psy. Dept.

that empty into that river, the bed of which is more than a mile wide in many places; the woods consist of white and black oak, walnut, hickory and sugar trees in the greatest abundance. In all parts of the country through which I came the game was very plenty, that is to say, deer, turkeys and pheasants; I likewise saw a great many vestiges of bears and some elks.

I crossed the river Muskingum about three or four miles below Fort Lawrence, and crossing all paths aimed for the Ohio river. All this time my food was gooseberries, young nettles, the juice of herbs, a few service berries, and some May apples, likewise two young blackbirds and a terrapin, which I devoured raw. When my food sat heavy on my stomach, I used to eat a little wild ginger which put all to rights.

I came upon the Ohio river about five miles below Fort McIntosh, in the evening of the 21st day after I had made my escape, and on the 22d about seven o'clock in the morning, being the fourth day of July, arrived safe, though very much fatigued, at the Fort.

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## NARRATIVE OF JOHN SLOVER.

Having in the last war been a prisoner amongst the Indians many years, and so being well acquainted with the country west of the Ohio, I was employed as a guide in the expedition under Col. William Crawford against the Indian towns on or near the river Sandusky. It will be unnecessary for me to relate what is so well known, the circumstances and unfortunate events of that expedition; it will be sufficient to observe, that having on Tuesday the fourth of June, fought the enemy near Sandusky, we lay that night in our camp, and the next day fired on each other at the distance of three hundred yards, doing little or no execution. In the evening of that day it was proposed by Col. Crawford, as I have since been informed, to draw off with order; but at the moment of our retreat the Indians (who had probably perceived that we were about to retreat) firing alarm guns, our men broke and rode off in confusion, treading down those who were on foot, and leaving the wounded men who supplicated to be taken with them.

I was with some others on the rear of our troops feeding our horses in the glade, when our men began to break. The main body of our people had passed by me a considerable distance before I was ready to set out. I overtook them before they crossed the glade, and was advanced almost in front. The company in which I was had separated from me, and had endeavored to pass a morass, for

coming up I found their horses had stuck fast in the morass, and endeavoring to pass, mine also in a short time stuck fast. I ought to have said, the company of five or six men with which I had been immediately connected, and who were some distance to the right of the main body, had separated from me, &c. I tried a long time to disengage my horse, until I could hear the enemy just behind me, and on each side, but in vain. Here then I was obliged to leave him. The morass was so unstable that I was to the middle in it, and it was with the greatest difficulty that I got across it, but which having at length done, I came up with the six men who had left their horses in the same manner I had done; two of these, my companions, having lost their guns.

We traveled that night, making our course towards Detroit, with a view to shun the enemy, who we conceived to have taken the paths by which the main body of our people had retreated. Just before day we got into a second deep morass, and were under the necessity of delaying until it was light to see our way through it. The whole of this day we traveled towards the Shawanese towns, with a view of throwing ourselves still farther out of the search of the enemy. About ten o'clock this day we sat down to eat a little, having tasted nothing from Tuesday, the day of our engagement, until this time which was on Thursday, and now the only thing we had to eat was a scrap of pork to each. We had sat down by a warrior's path which we had not suspected, when eight or nine warriors appeared. Running off hastily we left our baggage and provision, but were not discovered by the party; for skulking some time in the grass and bushes, we returned to the place and recovered our baggage. The warriors had halooed as they passed, and were answered by others on our flanks.

In our journey through the glades, or wide extended dry meadows, about twelve o'clock this day, we discovered a party of Indians in front, but skulking in the grass and bushes were not perceived by them. In these glades we were in great danger, as we could be seen at a great distance. In the afternoon of this day there fell a heavy rain, and then traveling on we saw a party of the enemy about two hundred yards before us, but hiding ourselves in the bushes we had again the good fortune not to be discovered. This night we got out of the glades, having in the night crossed the paths by which we had advanced to Sandusky.

It was our design to leave all these paths to the right and to come in by the Tuscarawas. We would have made a much greater progress, had it not been for two of our companions who were lame, the one having his foot burnt, the other with a swelling in his knee of a rheumatic nature.

On this day, which was the second after the retreat, one of our company, the person affected with the rheumatic swelling, was left

behind some distance in a swamp. Waiting for him some time we saw him coming within one hundred yards, as I sat on the body of an old tree mending my moccasins, but taking my eye from him I saw him no more. He had not observed our tracks, but had gone a different way We whistled on our chargers, and afterwards halooed for him, but in vain. Nevertheless he was fortunate in missing us, for he afterwards came safe into Wheeling, which is a post of ours on the Ohio, about 70 miles below Fort Pitt. We traveled on until night, and were on the waters of the Muskingum from the middle of this day.

Having caught a fawn this day, we made a fire in the evening and had a repast, having in the meantime eat nothing but the small bit of pork I mentioned before. We set off at break of day. About nine o'clock the third day we fell in with a party of the enemy about 12 miles from the Tuscarawas, which is about 135 miles from Fort Pitt. They had come upon our tracks or had been on our flanks and discovered us, and then having got before, had waylaid us, and fired before we perceived them. At the first fire one of my companions fell before me and another just behind me; these two had guns; there were six men in company, and four guns, two of these rendered useless by reason of the wet when coming through the swamp the first night; we had tried to discharge them but could not. When the Indians fired I ran to a tree, but an Indian presenting himself fifteen yards before me, directed me to deliver myself up and I should not be hurt. My gun was in good order, but apprehending the enemy behind might discharge their pieces at me, I did not risk firing, which I had afterwards reason to regret when I found what was to be my fate, and that the Indian who was before me and presented his gun was one of those who had just before fired. Two of my companions were taken with me in the same manner, the Indians assuring us we should not be hurt. But one in company, James Paul, who had a gun in order, made his escape and has since come into Wheeling. One of these Indians knew me, and was of the party by whom I was taken in the last war. He came up and spoke to me calling me by my Indian name, Mannuchothee, and upbraiding me for coming to war against them.

I will take a moment here to relate some particulars of my first captivity and my life since. I was taken from New River in Virginia by the Miamese, a nation called by us Picts, amongst whom I lived six years, afterwards being sold to a Delaware and by him put into the hands of a trader. I was carried amongst the Shawanese, with whom I continued six years; so that my whole time amongst these nations was twelve years, that is, from the eighth to the twentieth year of my age. At the treaty of Fort Pitt, in the fall preceding what is called Dunmore's War, which if

I am right, was in the year 1773, I came in with the Shawanese nation to the treaty, and meeting with some of my relations at that place, was by them solicited to relinquish the life of a savage, which I did with some reluctance, this manner of life having become natural to me, inasmuch as I had scarcely known any other. I enlisted as a soldier in the continental army at the commencement of the present war, and served fifteen months. Having been properly discharged I have since married, have a family and am in communion with the church.

To return, the party by whom we were made prisoners had taken some horses, and left them at the glades we had passed the day before. They had followed on our tracks from these glades, on our return to which we found the horses and rode. We were carried to Wachatomakak, a town of the Mingoes and Shawanese. I think it was on the third day we reached the town, which when we were approaching, the Indians in whose custody we were, began to look sour, having been kind to us before and given us a little meat and flour to eat, which they had found or taken from some of our men on their retreat. This town is small and we were told was about two miles distant from the main town to which they intended to carry us.

The inhabitants from this town came out with clubs and tomahawks, struck, beat and abused us greatly. One of my two companions they seized, and having stripped him naked, blacked him with coal and water. This was the sign of being burnt; the man seemed to surmise it, and shed tears. He asked me the meaning of his being blacked; but I was forbid by the enemy in their own language, to tell him what was intended. In English, which they spoke easily, having been often at Fort Pitt, they assured him he was not to be hurt. I know of no reason for making him the first object of their cruelty unless it was that he was the oldest.

A warrior had been sent to the great town to acquaint them with our coming and prepare them for the frolic; for on our coming to it, the inhabitants came out with guns, clubs and tomahawks. We were told that we had to run to the council house, about three hundred yards. The man that was blacked was about twenty yards before us in running the gauntlet. They made him their principal object, men, women and children beating him, and those who had guns firing loads of powder on him as he ran naked, putting the muzzels of the guns to his body, shouting, hallooing and beating their drums in the meantime.

The unhappy man had reached the door of the council house, beat and wounded in a manner shocking to the sight; for having arrived before him we had it in our power to view the spectacle—it was indeed the most horrid that can be conceived. They had cut him with their tomahawks, shot his body black, burnt it into holes

with loads of powder blown into him; a large wadding had made a wound in his shoulder whence the blood gushed.

Agreeable to the declaration of the enemy, when he first set out he had reason to think himself secure when he had reached the door of the council house. This seemed to be his hope, for coming up with great struggling and endeavors, he laid hold of the door but was pulled back and drawn away by them; finding they intended no mercy, but putting him to death, he attempted several times to snatch or lay hold of some of their tomahawks, but being weak could not effect it. We saw him borne off, and they were a long time beating, wounding and pursuing and killing him.

That same evening I saw the dead body of this man close by the council house. It was mangled cruelly, and the blood mingled with the powder was rendered black. The same evening I saw him after he had been cut to pieces, and his limbs and head about two hundred yards on the outside of the town put on poles. That evening also I saw the bodies of three others in the same black and mangled condition; these I was told had been put to death the same day, and just before we had reached the town. Their bodies as they lay were black, bloody, burnt with powder. Two of these were Harrison * and young Crawford.† I knew the visage of Col. Harrison, and I saw his clothing and that of young Crawford at the town. They brought horses to me and asked if I knew them. I said they were Harrison and Crawford's; they said they were.

The third of these men I did not know, but believe to have been Col. McCleland, the third in command on the expedition. The next day the bodies of these men were dragged to the outside of the town and their carcases being given to the dogs, their limbs and heads were stuck upon poles.

My surviving companion shortly after we had reached the council house was sent to another town, and I presume, he was burnt or executed in the same manner.

---

*This was Col. Harrison, son-in-law to Col. Crawford, one of the first men in the Western country. He had been greatly active on many occasions in devising measures for the defence of the frontiers, and his character as a citizen in every way, then a young man, distinguished and respectable. He had been a magistrate under the jurisdiction of Virginia, and I believe a delegate to the Assembly of that State. I know no man with whose grave, sedate manners, prudent conduct, good sense and public spirit on all occasions I was more pleased. H. BRACKENRIDGE.

†This was a son of Col. Crawford. I do not remember to have seen him, nor was I acquainted with his character before the expedition, but have since been informed universally, that he was a young man greatly and deservedly esteemed as a soldier and as a citizen.

H. B.

In the evening the men assembled in the council house; this is a large building about fifty yards in length, and about twenty-five yards wide, and about sixteen feet in height, built of split poles covered with bark; their first object was to examine me, which they could do in their own language, inasmuch as I could speak the Miami, Shawanese and Delaware languages, which I had learned during my early captivity in the last war; I found I had not forgotten these languages, especially the two former, as well as my native tongue.

They began with interrogating me, concerning the situation of our country, what were our provisions? our numbers? the state of the war between us and Britain? I informed them Cornwallis had been taken, which next day, when Matthew Elliot with James Girty * came, he affirmed to be a lie, and the Indians seemed to give full credit to his declaration.

Hitherto I had been treated with some appearance of kindness, but now the enemy began to alter their behavior towards me. Girty had informed them, that when he asked me how I liked to live there, I had said that I intended to take the first opportunity to take a scalp and run off. It was, to be sure, very probable that if I had such intention, I would communicate it to him. Another man came to me and told me a story of his having lived on the south branch of Potomac in Virginia, and having three brothers there, he pretended he wanted to get away, but I suspected his design; nevertheless he reported that I had consented to go. In the meantime I was not tied, and could have escaped, but having nothing to put on my feet, I waited some time longer to provide for this.

I was invited every night to the war dance, which they usually continued until almost day. I could not comply with their desire, believing these things to be the service of the devil.

The council lasted fifteen days; fifty to one hundred warriors being usually in council, and sometimes more. Every warrior is admitted to these councils; but only the chiefs or head warriors have the privilege of speaking. The head warriors are accounted such from the number of scalps and prisoners they have taken.

The third day McKee was in council, and afterwards was generally present. He spoke little, and did not ask any questions or speak to me at all. He lives about two miles out of town, has a house built of square logs with a shingle roof; he was dressed in

*These men, Elliot and Girty, were inhabitants of the western country, and since the commencement of the war, for some time professed an attachment to America, went off to the Indians. They are of that horrid brood called Refugees, and whom the devil has long since marked for his own property.

gold laced clothes. I had seen him at the former town through which I passed.

I think it was on the last day of the council, save one, that a speech came from Detroit, brought by a warrior who had been counselling with the commanding officer at that place. The speech had been long expected, and was in answer to one some time before sent from the town to Detroit. It was in a belt of Wampum, and began with addressing them, "My children," and inquiring why they continue to take prisoners? Provisions are scarce: when prisoners are brought in we are obliged to maintain them, and still some of them are running away and carrying tidings of our affairs. When any of your people fall into the hands of the rebels, they show no mercy; why then should you take prisoners? Take no more prisoners, my children, of any sort; man, woman or child.

Two days after, a party of every nation that was near being collected, it was determined on to take no more prisoners of any sort. They had held a large council, and the determination was, that if it were possible they could find a child of a span or three inches long, they would show no mercy to it. At the conclusion of the council it was agreed upon by all the tribes present, viz: the Tawaws, Chippawaws, the Wyandots, the Mingoes, the Delawares, the Shawanese, Munses, and a part of the Cherokees, that should any of the nations who were not present take any prisoners, these would rise against them, take away the prisoners and put them to death.

In the course of these deliberations I understood what was said perfectly. They laid plans against our settlements of Kentucky, the Falls, and towards Wheeling. These it will be unnecessary for me to mention in this narrative, more especially as the Indians finding me to have escaped, and knowing that I would not fail to communicate these designs, will be led to alter their resolutions.

There was one council held at which I was not present. The warriors had sent for me as usual, but the squaw with whom I lived would not suffer me to go, but hid me under a large quantity of skins. It may have been from an unwillingness that I should hear in council the determination with respect to me, that I should be burnt.

About this time, twelve men were brought in from Kentucky, three of whom were burnt on this day; the remainder were distributed to other towns, and all, as the Indians informed me, were burnt. This was after the speech came from Detroit.

On the day after, I saw an Indian who had just come into town, and who said that the prisoners he was bringing to be burnt, and who he said was a doctor, had made his escape from him. I knew this must have been Dr. Knight, who went as surgeon of the expedition. The Indian had a wound four inches long in his head,

which he acknowledged the doctor had given him; he was cut to the skull. His story was that he had untied the doctor, being asked by him to do so, the doctor promising that he would not go away; that while he was employed in kindling the fire the doctor snatched up the gun had come behind and struck him; that he then made a stroke at the doctor with his knife, which he laid hold of, and his fingers were cut almost off, the knife being drawn through his hand; that he gave the doctor two stabs, one in the back, the other in the belly; said the doctor was a great big, tall, strong man. Being now adopted in an Indian family, and having some confidence for my safety, I took the liberty to contradict this and said that I knew the doctor, who was a weak, little man. The other warriors laughed immoderately, and did not seem to credit him.* At this time I was told that Col. Crawford was burnt, and they greatly exulted over it.

The day after the council I have mentioned, about forty warriors, accompanied by George Girty, came early in the morning round the house where I was. The squaws gave me up. I was sitting before the door of the house; they put a rope round my neck, tied my arms behind my back, stripped me naked, and blacked me in the usual manner. George Girty, as soon as I was tied, d—d me, and said that I now should get what I had deserved many years. I was led away to a town distant about five miles, to which a messenger had been dispatched to desire them to prepare to receive me.

Arriving at this town, I was beaten with clubs and the pipe ends of their tomahawks, and was kept for some time tied to a tree before a house door. In the meanwhile the inhabitants set out to another town about two miles distant, where I was to be burnt, and where I arrived about three o'clock in the afternoon.

Here also was a council house, part of it covered and part of it without a roof. In the part of it where no cover was, but only sides built up, there stood a post about sixteen feet in height, and in the middle of the house around the post, there were three piles of wood built about three feet high and four feet from the post.

Being brought to the post my arms were tied behind me, and the thong or cord with which they were bound was fastened to the post; a rope also was put about my neck, and tied to the post about four feet above my head. During the time they were tying me, piles of wood were kindled and began to flame.

Death by burning, which appeared to be now my fate, I had re-

* It is well known that Mr. Slover mentioned these circumstances at his first coming into Wheeling, and before he could have known the relation of the doctor, for that this is an evidence of the truth of the doctor's account, and his own. H. B.

solved to sustain with patience. The divine grace of God had made it less alarming to me; for on my way this day I had been greatly exercised in regard to my latter end. I knew myself to have been a regular member of the church, and to have sought repentance for my sins; but though I had often heard of the faith of assurance, had known nothing of it; but early this day, instantaneously by a change wrought upon me sudden and perceivable as lightning, an assurance of my peace made with God, sprung up in mind. The following words were the subject of my meditation—"In peace thou shalt see God. Fear not those who can kill the body. In peace shalt thou depart." I was on this occasion by a confidence in mind not to be resisted, fully assured of my salvation. This being the case I was willing, satisfied and glad to die.

I was tied to the post, as I have already said, and the flame was now kindled. The day was clear, not a cloud to be seen. If there were clouds low in the horizon, the sides of the house prevented me from seeing them, but I heard no thunder, or observed any sign of approaching rain; just as the fire of one pile began to blaze, the wind rose, from the time they began to kindle the fire and to tie me to the post, until the wind began to blow, was about fifteen minutes. The wind blew a hurricane, and the rain followed in less than three minutes. The rain fell violent; and the fire, though it began to blaze considerably, was instantly extinguished. The rain lasted about a quarter of an hour.

When it was over the savages stood amazed, and were a long time silent. At last one said, we will let him alone till morning, and take a whole day's frolic in burning him. The sun at this time was about three hours high. It was agreed upon, and the rope about my neck was untied, and making me sit down, they began to dance round me. They continued dancing in this manner until eleven o'clock at night; in the meantime, beating, kicking and wounding me with their tomahawks and clubs.*

At last one of the warriors, the Half Moon, asked me if I was sleepy? I answered, yes. The head warrior then chose out three warriors to take care of me. I was taken to a block house; my arms were tied until the cord was hid in the flesh, they were tied in two places, round the wrist and above the elbows. A rope was fastened about my neck and tied to a beam of the house, but permitting me to lie down on a board. The three warriors were constantly harassing and troubling me, saying, "How will you like to eat fire to morrow—you will kill no more Indians now." I was in

* I observed marks on the man when I saw him, which was eight or ten days after he came in, particularly a wound above his right eyebrow, which he had received with the pipe end of a tomahawk; but his back and body generally had been injured. H. B.

expectation of their going to sleep, when at length, about an hour before daybreak, two laid down, the third smoked a pipe, talked to me and asked the same painful questions. About half an hour after, he also laid down; I heard him begin to snore. Instantly I went to work, and as my arms were perfectly dead with the cord, I laid myself down upon my right arm which was behind my back, and keeping it fast with my fingers, which had still some life and strength, I slipped the cord from my left arm over my elbow and my wrist. One of the warriors now got up and stirred the fire. I was apprehensive that I should be examined, and thought it was over with me, but my hopes revived when now he lay down again. I then attempted to unloose the rope about my neck; tried to gnaw it, but it was in vain, as it was as thick as my thumb and as hard as iron, being made of a buffalo hide. I wrought with it a long time, gave it out, and could see no relief. At this time I saw daybreak and heard the cock crow. I made a second attempt, almost without hope, pulling the rope by putting my fingers between my neck and it, and to my great surprise it came easily untied. It was a noose with two or three knots tied over it.

I slipped over the warriors as they lay, and having got out of the house, looked back to see if there was any disturbance. I then ran through the town into a corn field; in my way I saw a squaw with four or five children lying asleep under a tree. Going in a different way into the field, I untied my arm, which was greatly swollen and turned black. Having observed a number of horses in the glade as I ran through it, I went back to catch one, and on my way found a piece of an old rug or quilt hanging on a fence, which I took with me. Having caught the horse, the rope with which I had been tied served for a halter, I rode off. The horse was strong and swift, and the woods being open and the country level, about ten o'clock that day I crossed the Scioto river at a place, by computation, fifty full miles from the town. I had rode about twenty-five miles on this side of the Scioto by three o'clock in the afternoon, when the horse began to fail, and could no longer go on a trot. I instantly left him, and on foot, ran about twenty miles farther that day, making in the whole the distance of near one hundred miles. In the evening I heard hallooing behind me, and for this reason did not halt until about ten o'clock at night, when I sat down, was extremely sick and vomited; but when the moon rose, which might have been about two hours after, I went on and traveled until day.

During the night I had a path, but in the morning judged it prudent to forsake the path and take a ridge for a distance of fifteen miles, in a line at right angles to my course, putting back as I went along, with a stick, the weeds which I had bent, lest I should be tracked by the enemy. I lay the next night on the waters of Muskingum; the nettles had been troublesome to me after my

crossing the Scioto, having nothing to defend myself but the piece of a rug which I had found and which while I rode I used under me by way of a saddle; the briars and thorns were now painful to, and prevented me from traveling in the night until the moon appeared. In the meantime I was prevented from sleeping by the mosquitoes, for even in the day I was under the necessity of traveling with a handful of bushes to brush them from my body.

The second night I reached Cushakim, next day came to Newcomer's town, where I got about seven raspberries, which were the first thing I ate from the morning on which the Indians had taken me to burn me until this time, which was now about three o'clock the fourth day. I felt hunger very little, but was extremely weak. I swam Muskingum river at Oldcomer's town, the river being two hundred yards wide; having reached the bank, I sat down, looked back and thought I had a start of the Indians if any should pursue. That evening I traveled about five miles; next day came to Stillwater, a small river, in a branch of which I got two small crawfish to eat. Next night I lay within five miles of Wheeling, but had not slept a wink during this whole time, being rendered impossible by the mosquitoes, which it was my constant employment to brush away. Next day came to Wheeling, and and saw a man on the island in the Ohio opposite to that post, and calling to him and asking for particular persons who had been on the expedition, and telling him I was Slover, at length, with great difficulty, he was persuaded to come over and bring me across in his canoe.

At the same time, though I would strike away this excuse which is urged for the savages, I am far from approving the Moravian slaughter. Doubtless the existence of that body of people in our neighborhood, was of disadvantage, as they were under the necessity of receiving and refusing the Sandusky savages as they came to war, and as they returned, and as no doubt some amongst them communicated intelligence of any expedition on foot against the enemy. I am also disposed to believe, that the greater part of the men put to death were warriors; this appears from the testimony of one against another, from the confession of many, from their singing the war song when ordered out to be tomahawked, from the cut and painting of their hair, and from other circumstances. The greater part of the Moravian men who were really peaceable or well affected to us, having been carried off the fall before, and still detained at Sandusky.

But the putting to death the women and children, who sang hymns at their execution, must be considered as unjustifiable, inexcusable homicide; and the Colonel who commanded the party, and who is said perseveringly, contrary to the remonstrances of officers present, to have enjoined the perpetration of the act, has not yet been called to an account, is a disgrace to the State of Pennsylvania.

(Copy) Collins (52

To

Major John Butler

at Niagara — 19th May

6

Dear Sir, Niagara June 1st 1782 —

Your much esteemed favour of the 26th April I received and are much obliged to you for your kind enquiry of my health, Mrs Butler as well as myself are very uneasy on hearing that a Ship is lost called the Betsey, as that was the Name of the Vessel Mr Pollard & my Son went Home in, it would greatly add to the many friendly acts of yours to let us know the Certainty; we have still a Shaddow of hopes; as we hear that two or three Vessels of that Name were in the Fleet. —

Brigr General Powell shewed me an Order from His Excellency General Haldimand, desiring a Return of Indian Presents, also the Issues from the Storekupers Books. The Storekuper and his Books are in Montreal with Colonel Johnson; and Colonel Johnson did not leave a Paper or any account of any of his Transactions (not even the Indian Records) and as I were seldome called upon by him, it is impossible for me to give His Excellency any account whatever prior to Colonel Johnson leaving this, neither have I received any individual thing from Messrs Taylor & Forsyth. — But have given General Powell an Exact Acct

of

Capt Mathews

of which I have received; and the Issues as near as Possible from the Situation I were left in, the Storekeeper being taken away, a Boy left to attend the Store in every Respect unequal to the Task, if Mr. Thompson should not immediately return a Storekeeper some degree of cleverness will be much wanted; — The Young Man (Mr. Stevens) left with me as Secretary is by no means capable to act in that Character but will be very usefull as a Clerk, which is also much wanting, ——

Mr. Wilkinson I have found to be the most capable to act as Secretary, has given me every Assistance and more than any other of the Department, by acting as Adjutant, Secretary, taking the charge of all the Presents and delivering them to the Storekeeper as necessary, Wherefore I should be extreemly happy if his Excellency would be pleased to appoint him Secretary to the Department in case Colonel Johnson should not shortly return. ——

Brig.r Genl. Powell is convinced of the necessity of what I have mentioned, in consequence of which told me he would write the Commander in Chief. —

A Store House is also greatly wanted for the Indian Presents, as the Present Store is neither safe or convenient, being old, and entirely out of Repair, so much so, that the goods are daily Damaged in it, And I beg leave to say (provided Glass, Nails, and Iron Works are sent me) that I can for one Quarter Rent that Colonel Johnsons pays for Storehouses &c. Build a much more convenient one.

Since

the Timber &c and the Blocking it up can be done by the Forresters, with very little Expence attending it.—

This also General Powell thinks exceedingly necessary and Promised to acquaint his Excellency of it, & hopes this will be approved of, I shall immediately Order the Forresters to get the Scantlin Timber, Stone Lime, &c, that no time may be lost.—

The Seneca Chief Sayengaraghta with about 250 Warriors set of yesterday with an intention to cut off a Village near Fort Pitt, as the Party is large have thought Proper to order Capts Powell & Sothridge, two Lieuts and three Volunteers with some Forresters to accompany them, Lieut Wilson Johnston I have sent on a Scout that way sometime ago for Intelligence as the Indians report a new Road is making to the Ohio and a Number of Men Assembling at Fort Pitt.—

The Speech from the Western and Six Nations Requesting his Excellencys Assistence in taking Fort Pitt, they with his Answer.— Capt Brant proposes going to Oswego with about 60 or 70 Warriors, altho seemingly against his will, as his intention were to have Joyned the Shawanese &c at Sandusky, where he thinks could be of more Use, but as Major Ross is pressing for a Number of Indians, he goes there

The Indians are daily bringing Prisoners to their Villages I expect some of them here soon, but from the Accounts by the Officers Stationed at the different Villages, they know nothing of what are doing down the Country.— I have not as yet Received the Smith tools for the Farmers nor heard of em been on the way, notwithstanding the great necessity, I am Sir Your Obed. & Hble Servant

John Hutton

From — 1782.
Lieu.t Col.o Butler
1.st June. Rec.d 12.th
Concerning the
Date of Col.o Tinbrook's
Commission —

(This to yourself)

279

Dear Sir,

Niagara June 1st 1792

As His Excellency was Pleased to Order us New Commissions, should be very happy that a mistake could be rectified in the dates of Capt. McDonell and Capt. Fenbrooks Commissions, as it never were my intention that Capt. Fenbrook should take Rank of McDonell, which will appear by the Muster Rolls viz as the latter Company were Raised and Mustered Prior to the former, and always (until lately) thought to be eldest, as Capt. McDonell is the most capable Officer in the Corps to Command in my Absence, which will often be the case, if I am to have the care of the Indian Department; he is also the best liked by the Indians who soon after the death of my Son, desired in a very pressing manner that he should step in my Sons place. the above reasons, should be happy the General would comply with my Request, the whole of this beg to leave to your better Judgement whether it be proper to mention it to the General or not. — I sometime ago applyd for a Lieutenancy for Capt. McDonells Brother who has been a Volunteer a long time in Sir John Johnson's Corps, I am told

Capt. Matthews

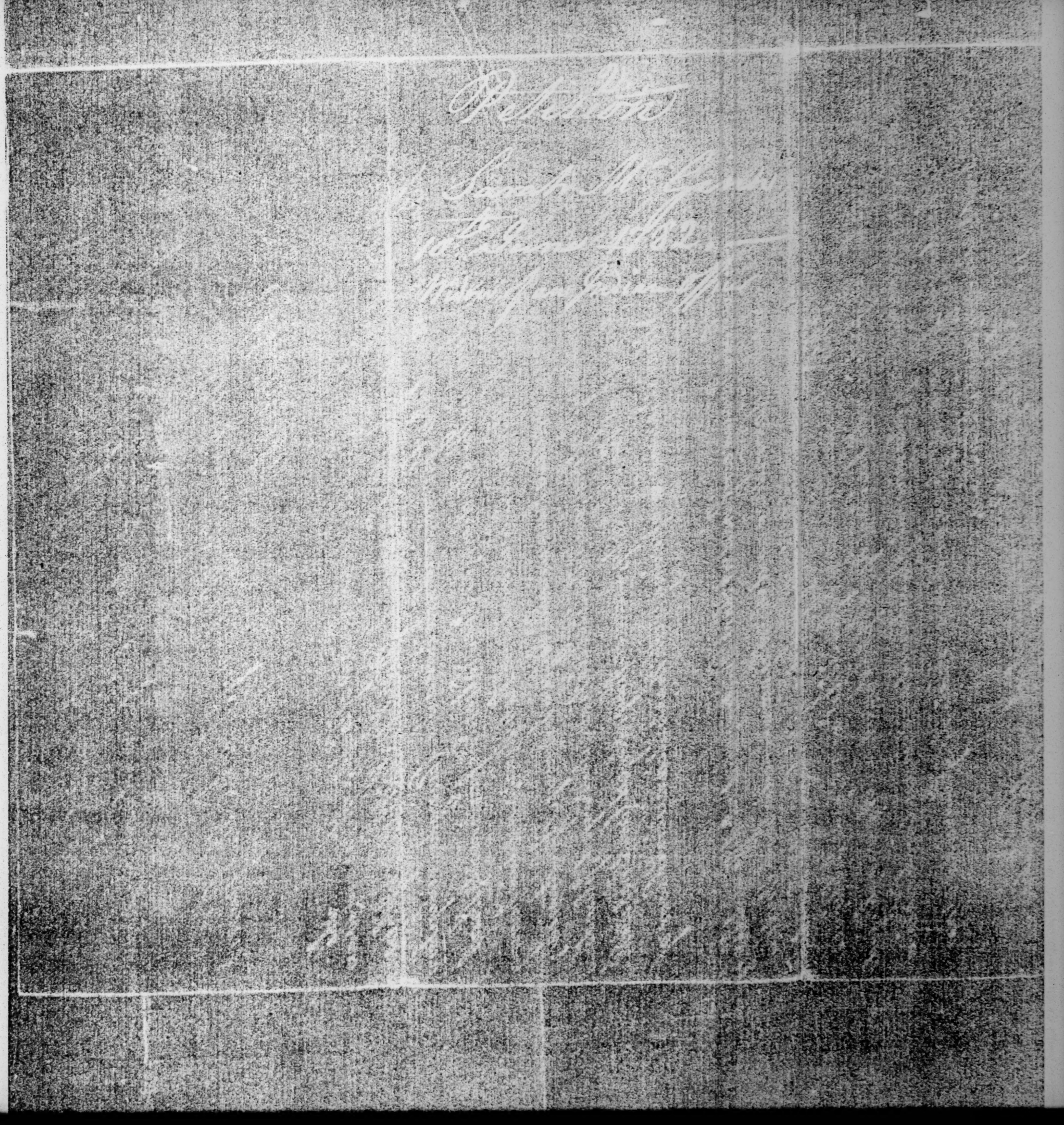
To Hon. Sir Henry Frederick Holland Knt. &c. &c. &c.
Governor and Commander in Chief in and over His Majesty's
Province of Quebec &c. &c. &c.

The humble Petition of Hannah McGinn
Widow

Sheweth

That your Petitioner's late Husband Lieut. John
McGinn deceased was in the Year 1776 appointed by
Major General Sir Guy Carleton (now Lord Dorchester)
then Governor of this Province to the Command of
the Garrison of Detroit and the Post of Michilimackinac
and the Country thereto belonging with the Rank
of Lieutenant in the Army and was in the Year
1778 ordered to Michilimackinac to relieve Lieut.
Governor Sinclair

That your Petitioner's late Husband
during his Residence at Michilimackinac
[illegible] Trade
[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]



Sir Nations who soon after went to Hungary from the Table on the Santee.

Sent from Gibraltar with Despatches for Captain Inglis and Lieutenant Governor Elliot, and having on board Lieutenant Colonel Drummond and Major Koehler, Aides de Camp to General Eliott, came to Spithead on the 20th of March following, and on the 21st proceeded to Portsmouth, where she remained till the 25th, when she sailed for Gibraltar with Lieutenant Colonel Drummond and Major Koehler, and arrived there on the 15th of April following

Copy/ Camp upper Sandoskie, June 7. 1782

56

Sir

I am desired by the Delawandotts to return you thanks for the assistance you have sent them, just in time of need, and they hope their Father will send them some provision Ammunition and some cloathing as they say they are quite naked and begs if possible a few more men and the half King a little Rum to drink his Majestys health and the day on which he was born, as that was the day on which they defeated the Enemy, and they hope that you will tell the Indians in general at Detroit to be ready to come to their assistance as soon as they send a runner which may be in a few days as the Enemy is coming into the Shawanese country, I am,

your most Obed.t
Humble Servant
John Turney, Lieut. of
the Rangers Com.d upper Sandoskie

Major DePeyster

Copy of a 3. Letter from
Lieut. John Turney
Commanding upper
Sandusky Dated 7.
June 1782 to
Majr. DePeyster
Commanding Detroit
Sic. Ja. Sc —

(Copy)

War

To

Major Gen[illegible]

To His Excellency Edward Addington Esq.r
Governor and Commander in Chief in and over
the Province of Lower Canada &c. &c. &c.

The Memorial of Lieut.t George McGinnis
of the Indian Department under the Superintendancy of
Col.o Guy Johnson

Sheweth

That your Memorialist was by Capt.n McGinnis
who held under the Command of Sir William Johnson Bart.t now
Lieut.t Gen.l Superintendant for his Loyalty engaged
in His Majesty's Service at the Commencement of the Troubles
in the Province of New York and was present at the Battle of
Oriskany and Fort Stanwix and other Engagements during
the whole of the Campaign of 1777 and was present at the
Defeat of Lieut.t Col.o St Leger at Fort Stanwix

That your Memorialist was also present at the Battle of
Bemis's Heights and Saratoga and was with Lieut.t Gen.l Burgoyne
when he surrendered his Army to the Rebels

That your Memorialist has been employed in the Indian
Department ever since the Commencement of the Troubles
in the Province of New York and has been Employed
by Sir John Johnson Bart.t Lieut.t Col.o Daniel Claus
Deputy Superintendant General of Indian Affairs
Col.o Guy Johnson Superintendant General of Indian Affairs
Col.o Claus Deputy Superintendant General of Indian Affairs
Col.o Mathew Elliot Deputy Superintendant General of Indian Affairs

5

[Copy]

Sandusky June 11th. 1782

Sir,

No doubt but you must ere this [illegible] received Lieut. Turney's letter from upper Sandusky — at the time it was wrote we were not able to properly the Enemy's loss, as the pursuers were returned — I now have the pleasure of transmitting to you as true an account as possible, which is killed and wounded 250 — amongst the Prisoners, Colonel Crawford and some of the Officers — amongst the [illegible] is Major McClellan — their Officers I believe are much — Our loss is very inconsiderable, one [illegible] killed, myself and two wounded — Levillier killed, 4 Indians killed and light wounded — The white men that are wounded are in a good way, and I hope will be fit for service in a fortnight — The Delawares are still in pursuit, and I hope we will account for most of the six hundred — The Lake Indians are very tardy, we had but Forty-four of them in the Action — I should be glad they would hasten as I expect we will have occasion for them — I hope something will be done this Summer — Clark I believe will soon be on his way for the Shawanese Country; if so, we will have occasion for as many as possibly can be gathered — The Indian demands are great and I have not a single thing to supply them with — Provision is mostly their cry, which I hope you'll

send

send us a fresh supply of — Ammunition, Tobacco, and such other things as are necessary for Warriors, are requisite if you please to send them — The Chief with one Eye and Dewantatie with their Bands are going to Detroit, as it is their custom after striking a blow to return and see their Families; but whatever you may tell them, they will do with pleasure — They behaved very well whilst with me — Sindewattone your friend the little old Chief remains with me, I find him very usefull, as he seems willing to do every thing in his power for the good of the Service, and of great service to me, and a better Soldier never went into the Field — I received a Ball through both my legs which obliged me to leave the Field — If I had not been so unlucky, I am induced to think, from the influence I have with the Indians, the Enemy would not have left the place we surrounded them in — The young man who goes in with letters, is a deserving young man, and I hope you will reward him well. — Please send us some pack ropes and Stuff for Bags, as they will be very requisite — Capt. M Kee sets out to day for the Shawanese Towns.

(Signd) Wm. Caldwell Capt.
Comm.d at Sandusky

Major De Peyster.

P.S. I must beg leave to recommend Abraham Coon who I found very usefull —

Copy of a Letter from
Captain Caldwell to
Major De Peyster, dated
at Sandusky June 11th
1782 ——

(Copy) Detroit 12th June 1782

No 1. Sir,

I have the pleasure to inform you that the Rangers and Confederate Indians from this Post, have been successful in opposing the Enemy at Sandusky. I herewith enclose Letters and Indian Speeches to that purpose, You will see how they press me for more assistance, which it is not in my Power to grant in the ruinous state the New Fort is at present, having almost undergone an inundation — If this weather continues I fear it will hurt our Works — The oldest people here do not remember such a rainy season — We are much at a loss for Tools to carry on the Works, and I shall want Iron, both for this place and Michilimackinac, if there is any on the Communication I hope you will be pleas'd to order it to be forwarded.

(Signed) A. S. De Peyster

Brigr Genl. Powell

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(Copy) Camp upper Sandusky June 7th 1782

No 2. Sir.

I am happy in having the pleasure of acquainting You with our success on the 5th and 5th instant — On the 4th about 12 O'Clock, the Enemy appear'd about two miles from this place — Captain Caldwell with his Rangers and about 200 Indians marched out to fight them, and attacked them about 2 O'Clock — the Enemy immediately retreated to a Copse of Wood at a little distance, where

they

they made a stand, and had every advantage of us, as to situation of ground People possibly could wish for — as there was but a small neck of Woods that we could get possession of, which when we once gained, the action became general and was dubious for some time, till we obliged them to retreat about 50 yards, after which we were able to cover most of our Men — the Battle was very hot 'till Night, which put a Stop to Firing — both Parties kept their ground all Night — On the 5th at day break we again commenced Firing, which we kept up pretty briskly, 'till we found the Enemy did not wish to engage us again, however we kept Firing at them whenever they dar'd shew themselves — they made two attempts to sally, but were repulsed with loss — about 12 O'Clock we were joined by 140 Shawanese, and had got the Enemy surrounded, but through some mistake of the Indians, there was one pass left unguarded, through which they made their escape about 12 at night, though some of the Indians pursued them — they never alarmed our Camp 'till day break — as soon as I heard of it, I pursued them with the Rangers about 2 miles — the Enemy was mostly on horseback, some of the Indians who had horses, followed and overtook them, kill'd a number, and it was owing to nothing but the Country's being very clear, that any of them escaped. Captain Caldwell was wounded in both legs, the Ball lodges in the one, he left the Field in the beginning of the Action — our loss is very inconsiderable, We had but One Ranger killed and two wounded — Le Vellier the Interpreter killed, 4 Indians killed and 8 wounded. The loss of the Enemy is 100 killed

Killd and 50 Wounded, as we are informed by the Prisoners, the number of the Killd we are certain of. Capt. Caldwell went for Lower Sandusky on the Evening of the 4th. instant — I intend to march to Lower Sandusky likewise in a day or two, where I shall wait your Orders, unless something should turn up before I hear from you — They say Clark will be in the Shawanese Country, and that Sandusky is the properest place for us to be at, till such time as we are certain the Report is true. Too much cannot be said in praise of the Officers and Men, and the Indians — no people could behave better — Capt. Elliot & Lieut. Clench in particular signalized themselves.

(Signed) John Turney Lieut.
Corps of Rangers

Major De Peyster.

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(Copy)
N°. 1.

Upper Sandusky June 7th. 1782.

Sir,

You have already an account of the repulse of the five hundred of the Enemy who advanc'd near to this place, and was surrounded by near an equal number of the Rangers and Indians; but being too sure of taking the whole, and an unlucky manœuvre of the Indians ordering the Centinels posted round them to Fire, shew'd the Enemy their weakest part, through which they escaped under cover of a dark night, however they were pursued and defeat'd; but it is difficult to ascertain the number Kill'd, as the Indians are still bringing in Prisoners and Scalps, and numbers still after them, whose intentions are to follow them to the Ohio. Many, by the Prisoners accounts, must perish in the Woods having lost their

Cloaths

Cloaths and Baggage.

The Chiefs assembled here, have also spoke to you their sentiments which is to go against the Enemy, provided they find the Enemy is not coming soon against them from Kentuck, tho' it is generally believed they will and that ten days or a fortnight will put us in certainty of their designs; in the mean time that our force be assembled and wait at Sandusky untill they send word what is further to be done. — They likewise beg you to send them what further assistance you can, with a further supplys of Ammunition & Stores suitable for Warriors, as that on the way they think will not be sufficient, and having already expended all they had. I shall from hence to lower Sandusky where Capt. Caldwell is and wounded, to see how matters can be settled there with the Indians, and from thence proceed to the Shawanese Towns.

(Signed) A. McKee.

Major De Peyster.

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(Copy)
No. 4

Upper Sandusky June 8th. 1782.

From the Mingoes, Shawanese, and Delawares.

Father,

What we told you this Spring, it is needless to repeat, you granted it to us, your assistance came in good time. We have with your people defeated the Enemy — There is another Army coming against us from Kentuck. this we are certain of, not only from Prisoners, but from our young men who are watching them. Father, we hope you will again grant our requests, and let the Rangers

remain

remain at lower Sandusky about ten days, and then march to our Villages — We hope, if possible, you will send some more of your People and Stores, such as is necessary for Warriors with Cannon and Provisions sufficient to maintain the Indians you may send to us; this you cannot do too soon, as we are determined, if the Enemy does not come into our Country, that we will go into theirs — and we will give you all the assistance in our power to transport your Provisions and what other Necessaries you may send for your People — We hope Father you will not fail, but send us all the assistance possible.

Three Strings of Black Wampum

(Sign'd) Capt. Snake

Copies of Letters and
Intelligence received at
Niagara from Detroit
June 15th. 1782 ——

Niagara 12th. June 1792

Dear Sir,

Your favour of the 16th. Ult. I received, As I wrote you a few days since, leaves me very little to say at present;— I am happy his Excellency is pleased with the progress the Farmers have made, they certainly have done very well, and would have done much better had they received Provisions, Smiths Tools &c.— the want of which, has very much disappointed them, as they expected to be supplyd agreable to the Memorandum His Excellency gave me, which Memorandum (I imagine) were lost with the late Colonel Bolton; — Seven or eight of the Rangers got their families from the Frontiers last fall, these, with some others that have been here for some time, are desirous of being discharged, and live to settle on Lands near this place, provided they can be supplyd with Provisions for one Year, and such Smith Works as may be necessary, these people were bred Farmers, and I am of opinion will soon be useful to this Port, as well as to enable them to support their families comfortably, which at present is very difficult.— I daily expect a Number of Recruits from the Frontiers, which will enable me to keep my Corps complete, after discharging those people that are on the decline of life, also having large families—

Brigadier

Captain Mathews

Brigadier General Powell, I belive will acquaint His Excellency of the Vacancy's in my Corps, agreable to a Return sent the Ajut.t General some time Past; —

I spoke to General Powell respecting a Commission for Volunteer William Hare, but on enquiry, and the second thought, conclude, it will be best for him to remain a Volunteer some time longer, which I have acquainted him with. —

Sayengaraghta set off from Buffalo Creek three days ago with the party mentioned in my last. —

Capt.n Brant leaves this to Morrow with about 290 Warriors for Oswego, and about 50 Senacas will follow shortly after and Joyn them there. —

Several small Parties are out on the Frontiers destined for different parts, and daily expected here. —

Capt.n Dame has received accounts of his Family's indisposition, I wish His Excellency could permit his seeing them. —

Peter and James Secord, Farmers, are about Building a Saw and Grist Mill, which I think will be a great acquisition to this Post. — they mean to purchase the Stones, and Iron Works in Canada, but begs His Excellency's assistance, by permitting them to be sent up in the Kings Bateaux. — —

I am Sir with Regard your
Obedient and Humble Serv.t
John Watts

From — — 1782.
Lt. Col. Butler
12th June
Rec. 26th —

# Return of Indian Presents sent to Oswego, also what were given to Capt.s Brants Party. Niagara June 11th 1782

| | Blankets | Shirts | pairs Leggins | Caps | Ps. garlowing | pieces Cloth | Com.s Cloth | Looking Glasses | Knives | Horns | Hats | pounds Vermilion | pounds Powder | Ps. Lead | Ps. Shot | Rifles | Fuzees | Pistols | Swords | Half Axes | Tomahawks | Shirts | Rolls | Kettles | Kegs | Gorgets | Coats | Indian Chiefs Medals | Indian Chiefs Coats | Suits Cloaths | Hands of Tobacco |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Sent to Oswego.. May 11th 1782 | 9 | . | 28 | 29 | 2 | . | . | . | 30 | . | 28 | . | 8 | 24 | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | 200 | 27 | . | . | . | . | . | . | . |
| sent to Oswego.. May 23 | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | 36 | . | 24 | . | . | . | . | . | 25 | . | . | . | . | 300 | 144 | 24 | . | 80 | 36 | . | . | 6 |
| sent to Do June 10th | 30 | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | 112 | 280 | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . |
| sent to Do June 14th with Capt. Brant | 24 | . | 66 | . | . | . | . | . | 36 | . | . | 16 | 224 | 560 | 112 | 7 | 25 | . | . | 36 | 36 | 500 | . | 24 | . | 64 | . | . | 60 | 6 |
| given Capt.s Brants Party | 15 | 327 | 342 | 367 | . | 24 | 44 | 3 | 276 | 239 | 143 | 27 | 106 | 550 | 13 | 2 | 9 | 8 | 18 | 17 | . | 400 | . | 15 | 2 | 360 | . | 500 | 5 | 27 |
| Total | 78 | 327 | 436 | 396 | 2 | 24 | 44 | 3 | 378 | 239 | 195 | 43 | 530 | 1414 | 125 | 9 | 59 | 8 | 18 | 53 | 36 | 1400 | 171 | 63 | 2 | 504 | 36 | 500 | 66 | 33 |

N.B. The former Partys that went to Oswego Recived their complete Cloathing &c.a at this Place. ——

The great Quantity of Silver Works &c.a that were given to Capt.s Brants Party, are not mentioned in this Return. ——

John Butler
Deputy Agent Ind.n affs.

287

Copy of a Letter from Lt Colo. Butler to Major De Peyster. Dated June 12th 1782

Sir

The Chiefs of the Six Nations in council agreed, that if they were to collect a sufficient number of warriors & march to Wheeling, would be of more service to their Western Brethren, than to immediately join them at Sandusky & act together, in consequence of which Three hundred with Sayangaraghta, at their head, have set off with a resolution to destroy that settlement. I have sent with them 2 Captains, 2 Lts. & 40 Sol. and a few men, who I make no doubt but will be successfull, as their route seems to be favourable, A few days since we had 3 deserters from Fort Pitt, One of whom, is gone with Sayangaraghta's Party to Pilot them to the Settlement, they have no news in particular, only there is much disquietude among the Soldiers & report their certainty of near 50 more from the same place, being on their way to Detroit.

I am Sir Your &c

To

Major De Peyster, Signed John Butler.

P.S. It is Major De Peysters request that some trusty people are dispatched to meet those Deserters & conduct them safe to Detroit for which they will be well satisfied, as if they had taken as many Prisoners

Niagara. June: 14th - 1782.

Sir,

I have the Honor to transmit copies of some dispatches, I lately received from Detroit. -

By Captain Grant's letter your Excellency will see that Mr. Horn was discharged "at his own earnest request", tho' I did not know before that that power was vested in the Commanding Officers of the Lakes. I must beg leave to mention that Mr. Horn seems to have quitted the Service with great regret, and I believe his loss will be felt, as he was always esteemed an excellent Seaman, and when he was employed upon the Communication between Fort Schlosser and Erie, the Officers commanding at those Posts, gave him a great character. I have advised him to go to Quebec and tell his own story, as it is possible you may wish to employ him again.

The inclosed intelligence was given by two Deserters, who are desirous of serving in the Rangers, and from some circumstances in their favor, Colonel Butler is inclined to entertain them, should it meet with your approbation, otherwise, I shall send them down to Canada.

I mentioned sometime ago that

His Excellency
General Haldimand. }

Captain

Captain Brant was determined to go to Oswego with two Hundred Indians; they are to embark this evening it is expected there will be rather more than that number, but there is no being certain, till the ship is under weigh as they frequently return after they have gone on board. They go in the Limade.

Lieut. Duvernet of the Artillery having been relieved at Detroit is on his way to Canada.

I have the honor to be with great respect

Sir,

Your Excellency's,

most obedient

&

most humble Servant.

William Booth

P.S.

Colonel Butler informs me that if your Excellency wants to send a letter to New York, that one of the Rangers, who may be depended upon, will undertake to get it conveyed there, and bring back an answer; and that if your letter is sent by express line, it will not make a great many days difference between your sending by Lake Champlain or this Post.

W W P—

1782

Return
Brigad.r General Powell
at Niagara of the 12th June
Rec.d the 26th June
With sundry inclosures

Niagara. June 15th 1782.

78

Sir,

The Vessels having been detained by a contrary wind gives me an opportunity of sending a dispatch, which I received from Colonel Butler.

The Detachment is gone with the same number towards Fort Pitt, and the two parties are supposed to be composed of as good Warriors as were ever employed.

I have the Honor to be with great respect,

Sir,

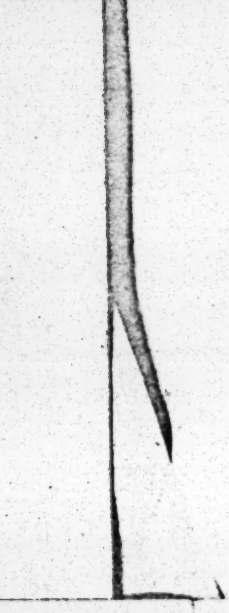
your Excellencys

most Obedient and

most humble Servant

Wm Caldwell

His Excellency
General Haldimand.



(S) — 1782

From

Brigad.r General Powell

of the 15.th June, Read.d

the 26.th — inclosing

Ind. Council Detroit June 15. 1782

Present

Major Gt. St. DePeyster Commandant
Messrs. D. Baby & Chesne Interpreters
a Number of Cherokees from Chote

Tha, is, kin Speaks on 2 Strings

Father!

As this is the day which affords us light and enable us to appear before our father at Detroit, we the Cherokees are thankful and Salute you in this House—

Father! We not till you that we are of the same way of thinking with yourself in supporting the Kings Cause, as your mind is the same with those of us who inhabit our Quarters—

Father

We rejoice and think this a great favor conferd on us by the great Spirit who has given us a Circle of his light to Speak in. Father! When you hear my Speech let it remind you of yours. You have held your engagements with us in some respect and I hope you'll continue them

I now shall Talk to you on another matter you told us to defend our lands that the Rebels were inclined to take our lands from us you at the same time called God to witness your Assertions it's on him we all depend—

Father! We have no Speeches from the

King

King telling us Children, the Land that you possess is between us both, you Know I am a Great man, and give you my assistance, and if the Rebels succeed the Lands which we claim, will be lost and I shall not have it in my power to continue to assist you any more, - this Father gives us pain - Nevertheless should we be so unfortunate as to loose those Land, we hope it's not altogether over with us be not disheartened tho' we may loose on one occasion we may recover it on another, as we will never give it up

delivers two Strings

This is, Ken, Speaks on several Strings

Father!

You at the same time told us your Cherokee Children to act with as much vigour as possible and never be discouraged

Father! Hunting we have now given up for War is our occupation and we are ever disposed to execute your Commands, I make no complaint of my Situation, for if I'm miserable it is because I am supporting your quarrel -

Father. You always promise to support us, as you are to do so, you must be the judge of what is necessary for us

Father I and my people beg you'll not

not be sparing in giving us presents as we are from afar, Tobacco has been promised to us both from here and in our quarter, we hope you'll not confine your presents to what is only necessary but what is Shining and handsome -

Father! Since you told us to think of War only, why do you not give us a Sufficiency of Arms, powder and ball to enable us to face the common Enemy

/ delivers the sacred String /

Wha is, kin Speaks only 4 Strings"

Father!

After having spoken to you in the behalf of Warriaus I must beg of you to have patience until I speak for the Women, from whom all Warriaus Spring forth from the beginning of things -

Father! Tho we do not go to War yet it Subjects us Women to many misfortunes, such as loosing our Relations and friends, Notwithstanding our Misery and the darkend Clouds which Warriaus bring on us our hopes is in the giver of life and whenever he bids War to

cease

to cease we shall be thankful, 'till then we join our father in encouraging the young men to arms against the Enemy

Father.' If we Women put our hopes in Heaven it is because we have no consolation on earth, all we experience here is care and trouble —

(delivers the strings)

Wha, is, Ken Speaks on 12 Scalps and two Prisoners

Father.' We left our Village with a view of paying you a visit and on our way we fought with the Enemy and took these two young men which I present to you for acceptance

Dear

I am very sorry I acquainted you the day of the Funeral with the Circumstance of Mrs Hamilton's much disapointed in not being buried at Fort Edward not for want of Respect from Col. Skene and Family or Mrs Hamilton but from the Impossibility of getting Horses or Carriages to Convey the Corpse from Fort Edward to Skenesborough, the Roads being so bad that no Carriage could pass, and the Distance being too great for Horses to perform in one day, and as the Corpse must have been kept above Ground for a Week or Ten Days, it was thought more Decent to bury her at Skenesborough, where a Vault was ready made, than to keep her above Ground for that Space of Time, in a Country where the Heat is so great at this Season of the Year, and where Proper Conveniencies for embalming the Dead are not to be had, I am sorry that Mrs Hamilton's Disapointment has given you any Uneasiness, but I hope you will excuse it, as it proceeded entirely from Affection for her Husband, and Respect for his Memory, and I am sure you will do her the Justice to believe that no Disrespect was intended to you or Family, by her Conduct on that occasion, I am Dear Sir Your most Obedient Humble Servant

Philip Skene

From
Capt. Joseph Brown Jr.
Major Miss J. M. Brown
in Charleston South Carolina
Nov. 18. 1822

Peter
Angie Ogle Lamb
Mary Ann Ogle Ely
Lucy Ogle Parsons Lamb

Private

No 17

Sir

Quebec 21st June 1782

124

Last night received a Dispatch from Sir Guy Carleton, dated New York the 21st May — He informs me that when He left England it was the Determination of the Ministry, and the sense of the Nation at large to pursue all possible means consistent with Honor, to bring about an Accommodation with America.

In Consequence of which, He purposes to Confine His Operations entirely to Defence — I have not yet Received any Instructions from Home, but as there is no doubt the same measures will be generally pursued, I shall immediately adopt the same Conduct — You will please therefore to give such Orders in the District of your Command as will prevent any Offensive Operations being undertaken untill you shall hear further from me, but in such a manner as not to occasion a Belief of a Report prevailing in the Colonies that there is a Cessation of Arms which is by no means the case — You will do your utmost to prevent depredations & Cruelties upon the Frontiers by the Indians — To save time I shall communicate the above immediately to Oswego & Carleton Island —

You will please to send down all the Rebel Prisoners from your Post by the first Opportunity. —

I am &c

(Signed) F. H.

NB/ Copy of the above (except the two last Paragraphs) sent to Major Ross at Oswego & Captain Andrews at Carleton Island —

Return of the Six Nation Indians & Volunteers present at Osego and on Service from that Place — 25th June 1782 —

| Nations — — | Present — | | | | on Service | | General Total |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Chiefs | Warr. | Women | Total | Chiefs | Warr. | |
| Mohawks | 2 | 42 | 1 | 47 | . | . | 47 |
| Onondagoes | 3 | 83 | 4 | 90 | . | . | 90 |
| Cayugas | 3 | 58 | 4 | 65 | . | . | 65 |
| Mushquages | 1 | 22 | 1 | 24 | 1 | 3 | 28 |
| Senecas | 2 | 9 | . | 11 | 1 | 13 | 25 |
| Sideyshreonus | 1 | 15 | . | 16 | . | . | 16 |
| Tuscaroras | 1 | 2 | . | 3 | . | . | 3 |
| Delawares | 2 | 20 | 7 | 29 | . | . | 29 |
| Branch Volunteers | . | 10 | . | 10 | . | . | 10 |
| Total | 15 | 263 | 17 | 295 | 2 | 16 | 313 |

(Signed) John Young Lt

London 21

Sir,

I last night received a Dispatch from
Sir Geo. Cathcart, Dated March the 27th
and I am under H. Lordships Com-
mands to Inform you that
Prince de Joinville Road Cavalry
& Foot Artillery are Embarked
in Consequence of Orders
Received by this Packet
and I am to desire that
I may be Informed with the Lords
Wish whether Troops
will Proceed
Direct Upon Receipt
Officers Superintending

(Copy) Detroit June 23d. 1782.

N.8 Sir, 80

I have just received the enclosed from Captain Caldwell — and an Indian just arrived, informs me that some of their scouting Parties have seen a large Encampment of the Enemy at Tuscarawas.

(Signed) A.L.S. De Peyster

Brigr. Genl. Powell.

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(Copy) Detroit June 23d. 1782.

Sir,

N.9.

Since closing my Letters I am informed by a Prisoner, that General Irving is to take the Route of Tuscarawas, a party of Militia, the Shawanese Country, and Mr. Clarke the Wabash with a train of Artillery. — That this Expedition notwithstanding it is given out as intended against the Indian Villages only, is, in reality a concerted plan against Detroit, which Mr. Irving brought with him from the Congress. My Scouts are hourly expected in from different Quarters, but as I hear that the Hope has been seen near the mouth of the River, I will not detain the Dunmore any longer.

(Signed) A.L.S. De Peyster

Brigr. Genl. Powell.

Extract

6 Extract of a Letter from Captain Caldwell to Major De Peyster, dated at Sandusky June 13th. 1782 —

"Simon Girty arrived last night from the upper Village who informs me, that the Delawares had burnt Colonel Crawford and two Captains at Pipes-Town, after torturing them a long time — Crawford died like a hero, never changed his countenance tho' they scalped him alive and then laid hot ashes upon his head, after which they roasted him by a slow fire — He told Girty if his life could be spared, he would communicate something of consequence, but nothing else could induce him to do it — He said some great blows would be struck against this country — Crawford and four Captains belonged to the Continental Forces — he said 14 Captains were killed."

P. S. The Rebel Doctor and General Irving's Aid De Camp are taken by the Shawanese — they came out on a Party of Pleasure —

N.º 6, bis.)

Copies of two Letters from Major DePeyster to Brig.r Gen.l Powell, dated at Detroit 23.d June 1782 —

and

Copy of an Extract of a Letter from Capt.n Caldwell to Major DePeyster dated June 13.th 1782 —

Niagara. June 29th 1782.

Sir,

Two days ago only I had the honor to receive Your Excellency's Dispatches, containing letters of the 18th 28th & 31st. Ult: That that of the 18th arrived sooner, I should not have given Captain McDonell leave to go to Canada 'till the Fall, tho it is possible he may be more wanted here at that time, than he is now.

The rest of the Indians are now gone out to war, a large party of which are at Detroit, and every thing settled in respect to the affair of last Fall, and they are properly fixed in their former confidence, I presume it is not necessary to bring it on the carpet again; I shall at least wait Your further commands upon it, as very few of the Chiefs are now here.

Particular inquiry has already been made into the cause of their disorderly, and as Colonel Butler got a list from Canada that jealousies had been fomented among them to serve particular purposes, he became more interested in it, but nothing transpired to support that opinion, and nothing but the former cause can be assigned for it.

The six Nations did reprimand two of their Chiefs very severely for their misconduct last Fall, which is a proof that matter had been properly urged.

Your Excellency is likewise pleased to notice

His Excellency
General Haldimand.

12

in your letter of the 28th that for three years past every letter from Niagara re-echoed the invidious declares of the six Nations to take Post at Oswego, their the safety of their wives and children, their all depended upon it, 1000 Indians would be at all times ready to cooperate with the Troops".

I must beg leave to observe, that I have been here near two years, and never heard one of them express even a wish of that kind, and when it was pressed upon them, that were once very anxious for us to take Post at Oswego, they replied it was very true. that they were then in possession of their Villages and all the comforts of life, and had Post been then taken there, they might have been protected in them, but that the case is altered since Genl. Sullivan has been permitted to drive them off their Lands and destroy all their property.

Whoever said 1000 of them would at all times be ready to co operate with the Troops, probably did it to abide his own consequences, for Colonel Butler declares, he has not upon any expedition seen more than 600 Warriors, of the six Nations, together; and these are I believe, that number upon service, which proves that their attachment still remains.

In your letter of the 31st. Your Excellency expresses your surprize, that I proceeded so far from going to Oswego; it is possible I might be wrong, and I am sorry I did it, since you disapprove of my conduct upon that occasion. — I shall state my reasons for it, and be assured in the consequence, I shall not depend the measure.

When Your Excellency was pleased to order

Troops

Troops from the Garrison to take Post at Niagara, provided that only a few Indians should be sent from time to time those whose curiosity only or other reasons might lead them to go, should be discouraged, and that Captain Brant should be recalled from Detroit in order to go there. — Orders already given very few of them will stir at that time. — But Major Ross informing me that he wished most of the Natives might be with him by the 20th of May. I desired they might be assembled, that from the reason, every end might be effected. — About this time Captain Brant returned and offered his services with 60 or 70 Warriors; but hearing at the same time that the rebels were assembling at Wheeling, and a Courier even coming in with an account of their being within three days march of Kaskaskias, and receiving also intelligence from good authority, that nothing was to be apprehended for Niagara from the Mohawk River or the neighbourhood of it, I thought it right to detain him till I knew the truth of the enemies report. — Added to this Captain Brant was at that time, and had been long so, at variance, with some of the principal Chiefs, with whom it was necessary to reconcile him, or I believe very few would have followed him. He had also his house to finish and his corn to plant, which he wished to see done before he went away, as there did not appear any thing very pressing.

My Letters of the 13th & 14th Inst. will inform your Excellency of the number of Indians who went to Niagara, and who, I may venture to say, would not have gone, had not Major Ross, by my desires, — sent a speech

to

to the six Nations, which, with the influence I had over Joseph, who was become reconciled to the other Chiefs, and his interest in their quarrel, prevailed upon them. This with Sehyengoerachtie's giving assurances to Sir Wm. Pitt, is a convincing proof that the Indians are still staunch, and that no sinister views have been used to withdraw their affections or create jealousies.

A few days before the departure of the Indians for Oswego, they requested I would visit and christen their Village, which is about eight miles from hence, and lies on the left of the leading. I accordingly went and found a great number of the Mohawks, and some of the other Nations very comfortably settled, and their fields well planted with Indian Corn, and as they were desirous of having a name expressive at the same time of their loyalty and unanimity, their Village was christened the Loyal Confederate Valley; even this trifling circumstance shows the disposition of the Indians.

I have received a letter from Major Bass of the 18th inst. mentioning the arrival of the Indians, and that the Cattle he had purchased exceedingly fatigued at their not being provided with Powder and Ball and Provisions, as they expected, and that the whole Chiefs had obliged him to write to your Excellency upon the subject. — I have mentioned the affair to Colonel Butler, who assures me that they were very well provided, and daily with every refreshment

proper

proper for War, but particularly so with a view to the Indians. I am sorry to say there have been frequent complaints since I came here that Captain Brant was a great expence to Government, and very difficult to please. Like any of the other Chiefs, and more particularly so, since his return from Detroit.

I have the Honor to be with great respect

Sir,

Your Excellency's

most obedient

&

most humble Servant.

Robert Lovell

1782.

From

B. Gen.l Powell

27th June - Rec.d 1st July

To

George the Fifth &c &c &c

Know Ye that We of Our Especial Grace
and for the more Perfect Ease of Our Loving Subjects
the Proprietors of the Land
Hereinafter Mentioned Have Granted
and Do Hereby Grant and Declare that the Lands
Hereinafter Described Shall Be Held
Subject to the Payment of the Rents
Hereinafter Reserved and to the Terms Conditions
and Provisions Hereinafter Contained
Which Terms Conditions and Provisions
Are to Be Observed and Performed by
Our Said Subjects Their Heirs
Executors Administrators and Assigns

From Do 1782.

Lieut. Col. Butler

28th June - Rec. 10 July

Niagara 29th June 1782

Sir,

I am just informed by Brigadier General Powell, of Joseph Brants dissatisfaction and great complaints at Oswego, that himself and the Indians there with him are hardly used by me, not filling them out with necessary's suitable for War parties going on service, in consequence of which I have inclosed you a Return of the Indian Presents sent to Oswego, also what were given that Party before their embarkation, and he himself were present and saw the Cloathing &c. given them, with every appearance of satisfaction, in short I made it my Business to give every thing he asked for; you will see by this Return that they have been more extravagantly loaded with presents then any party that ever left this Post. in my time. I always filled the Parties out at this place, with necessary's compleate suitable to Warrion and if they are to be cloathed &c again at Oswego, it will be necessary to have a Store there for that purpose,

I am Sir,

Your most obedient humble Servant

Captain Mathews

purpose; — I am exceedingly sorry Major Ross has troubled His Excellency with Indian complaints, without first knowing whether they were just or not, had he with General Powell or myself, he would then immediately been acquainted with every particular. ——

I am Sir Your most Obedient
Humble Servant
John Bulloch

P.S. The Farmers Stimulis are agreable to me if any former letters, if they are not already in their way, shall esteem it a favour as well as the Farmers themselves to be sent to this Post by the first opportunity. —

From Do 1782.

Lieut Gov.r Butler

29.th June — Rec.d 10.th July

Inclosing a Return

of Provisions given

to Col. Brant's Party

going to Oswego

Copy

Quebec 9th July 1782. ——

Dear Sir

I have the acknowledge Your favor of the 1st Ultimo, and have Communicated its Contents to His Excellency the Commander in Chief, Who is very Sensible of the difficulties You were left in With Respect to a Secretary, Store Keeper &c. and Would endeavour to Remedy them immediately, but as Sir John Johnson is daily expected, and that a general Arrangement must be made in the Department, with a View to Permanency, He Waits his arrival for that Purpose, in the Mean Time, His Excellency has in Particular Consideration in Your Carrying On the Service to the best Advantage possible Under these difficulties. ——

His Excellency has Approved of Your having made Preparations for building a Store House and Council Chamber & has directed Brig: Genl. Powell to have them Completed.

In Regard to the Speech from the Western and Six Nations requesting His Excellency's Assistance to reduce Fort Pitt, an Answer was given to Col. Johnson on the 22d. January last, an Extract of his Letter on that Subject is inclosed, & His Excellency thinks it, had been long since delivered to the Indians, He desires You will acquaint them With his sentiments on that Affair in the Manner Col. Johnson was directed &c. ——

I have also Received & laid before His Excellency, Your Letter of the 12th Ultimo, respecting the Farmers — In Order to Encourage that useful Branch, He has Revoked his Order discharging the Men You mention and granting them Provisions, & other little Assistance

Lieut. Colonel Butler. —— &c

Copy

Dear Sir

I have had the Honor to receive Your Letter
by Lieutenant Commander in Chief Your Letter of the 14th Sept.
with the Inclosed from Capt. Thomas Commanding in the
Town of the Chief and Warrior of the Right Honble
& their Answer from Musgrave and Your Commander
Lieuty & Your Self Answering such that You Write me
only Words Argument & Comment from first I did not
Publish from Myself, but a Desire of Both the King
Hon, owing to the Necessity of employing the only
Person in Publick who Character of Interpreter with the
Aboriginal Tribes — that they Both Parties might
have Recourse a Deputy of Messages in Imagination &
Where the Interpreter Commands Both Parties, Stations in an
Indifferent Manner between the Parties & Both Parties
to Interpret the Words Each Party to Each Party without

Fort.

Sandwich July 3d 1792

I was this day favored with a Letter from Major De Peyster. in which was inclosed a Copy of one from Col.o Butler. which I send you. .. I have waited with a deal of patience. for the Shawenese Letter. but am sorry to find that I will be obliged to sett off without them as the time appointed by the Indians for our Ansr is nigh expired. if there should be any coming I will send them off immediately. there is no News in particular. but that at the Ministry is entirely changed & Sir John Johnston is at the head of Indian Affairs, inspector General, I am Sir with the Gent.l Compl.ts

Your Most Obd.t

Hble Servt.

Capt. McRee.

Wm Caldwell.

In days agoe the Chamis Chuse with the Cherokees arrived in the Cherokee Nation and they desired him to let you know it for Reasons ——— a talk

This to let my friend in the different Nation to the Nord and know of my safe arrival with my Younger brothers in the Cherokee, I have said nothing as yet as my talk could not cleverly be heard at present I am told to go down to my father the Governt. at Augustus When I shall see the different nation of Indians with him & father and have good oak my talk they told me I is agreed Cleland whome I don't think of so that I can give oak my talk to the benefit of the Nation & send in 8. In four Nights we shall set off with our Boys. as I have told you before what time I shall be absent from my Nation I shall be Returning again my back and for me back with my Boys. the Cherokees.

The above I would desire you to satisfy the Indians how I have told you our present situation in this Nation about twenty days agoe three Rebels army made their appearance in this Nation and made a demand of the White people, the Indians & said their corn give up twenty White Men to the Mercy of their army I with I with a few Men went to Chucamago where I met the Governor who has been

been

Your good Lordship would find the Rebels [illegible]
and as nothing can not be done here I shall take the Shawanese with me to Augusta to the Lieut. Col. Mr. Brown
when they shall be call'd and Send in from [illegible]
Indians — The Bearer of this is a fine young Man and very Pleas.
to Govern.t, I shall take it as a great favour if you'll use him
and his Company well [illegible] as the things I expect have any
Publick Goods — I Remain

Your most Obl.t very Hum.e
Ser.t

A.r McDonald Lieu.t

10 Small Kegs of Powder
15 D.o D.o Ball
2 Bales Blankets
40 Pack Saddles
30 Barrels of Pork
12 D.o Grease
173 Bags of Corn
15 D.o of flour

John McDonald Commiss.y
Dep.t Assist.t [illegible]

Tho.s Mellis Esq.r

In Council Detroit July 6th 1802

Present

Major A. S. DeLyster, Commandt.
Messrs. Baby & Chesne Interpreters,
Cherokees, Shawanese & Six Nations,
Captain Dick, a Cherokee Chief Speaks

Father.

If you see us here at present its not of our own accord, but by the desire of the white people and those of my Nation who wished I should accompany Mr. Hart to this place which I have executed and shall say a few words to you —

— he then Speaks on strings of wampum

Father. Since its the will of the Great Spirit that I shou'd speak to you this day. I hope you will listen with attention for the several Speeches which I shall deliver are from our Chiefs who are assembled at Chickamagey —

Father. Since I left my Village I and my people have been in darkness for we have not seen a ray of light

until

until this moment which is from your
presence, for which we return our thanks
to the Master of Life —

Father!

As our stay here will be but
of short duration, I take this opportunity
of telling you that as you and your kids
in this quarter think alike, so do we who
are more remote, being all strongly united
for the same cause, the Six Nation
people who are accompanied to this place
make but one body with us —

Father! This General Alliance among
us is founded on the blood which we
spill daily

Father! It's your promise to us on
giving us the axe that made us act
against the Enemy we have done
your will and that of our Brethren the
Six Nations, and you can assure yourself
since we make but one with you and
the numerous Nations of the continent
provided you take care of all the War-
riors,

— he then speaks in two scales —

Father! altho' I may appear to you
of little consequence I hope you will
nevertheless attend to the wants of those
that I shall represent, and give us where-
with to enable us to continue this War —

Father!

Since we mean to be but one

with

with you in Sentiment we deliver you these
Scalps as marks of what we have done, and
that we do not give up the war as —

Wa, ho, the — another Cherokee gets up and Says

Father. I beg you to listen to what I have
to say, you may recollect that when I
was here before, you told me and my
people to make but one with you and to
act against the Rebels

, he then addresses the Six Nations,

Brethren the Six Nations, it's you that
formed this plan of uniting us with you
elder Brethren the English and we readily
took it, Father. You may confide in us
since we are but of one mind with you
and act in concert with your other Children
but I have to recommend to your care
the Supporting of us in the war —

Father.

Do not be surprised to see us
address you on so few Strings of wam-
pum for we were unfortunate enough
to loose our belts on the way — now
that we have told you that we
are firm in your cause you may
spare yourself that on your return to
our Village that I shall engage my
Brethren to think with us —

Wa, bo, the — then Speaks on a Scalp —

Father! I present this Scalp to you which I hope will be acceptable, I rec'd it from my Brethren the Shawanese, I beg Father you will shew yourself strong as you told us your wife is so —

— a Shawanese Speaks on a Scalp

Father! After having heard what your Children the Cherokees had to say, I present you this Scalp as a proof that we do you will also —

a Six Nation Chief speaks on 3 Strings —

Brother! Since the day that we have seen you last, we have been amongst our Brethren and were engaged against the Enemy, being successful, we determined to return in company with the Shawanese

Brother! I pray of you to listen to what I may say concerning the Cherokees, part of those present are just come from war by the Sea of their people, they have lost their apparel on their way hither and I hope that you will take care to provide for them as they are here for the common good —

Brother! In consideration of their attention towards Government, I beg you'll provide

vide for them in abundance as they
are unaccustomed to it, you must soon
if you take Prisoners [illegible] return with
us away with only one equipment for
each, if you are not furnished with
such provisions, I brought them in with
us, and I have a request of you to do
something more is what you have already
done, You will also provide for
us, as we mean to return to Niagara
and as paint our people now [illegible]
we are —

— he then delivers two Scalps in the
Name of one of his Nephews, telling the
Commandant that this was a proof of
his Nephew's attention to please his father
— he lost his Cloaths and Provisions
he therefore prays that the Commandant
will [illegible] — most amply —

Major DeLeyster then addressed them —

Children. After Saluting you the
Six Nation and Shawanese, I address
the Cherokees in particular,
Children the Cherokees —

The reason you do not see
any of my Children the brown Skins

As

who border this Province it became the
are out against the Enemy combating
for the common cause, this information
I hope is sufficient to convince you that
they act as you have done, and have
nothing to apprehend as they have for
support their English Father — if any
accident should befall them it will
be by their own imprudence for their
Father the King of England is this
day as willing to support and protect
his Indian Children as ever — I
know that there are some of your
people who have been imprudent
enough to listen to the Rebels and
I am happy to find that the greatest
part of you did not do so, for if you
had it would have led to your destruction
however I yet hope that your advice
may yet them over to your again —

Children.

as your Brethren the Six
Nations who are present have heard
what you had to say with regard
to the assurances of continuing the
War, I shall therefore give them
the marks thereof (Scalps) which they
will carry to Niagara by their Wives.

Children.

as you express a desire of
returning home immediately I will
order a Double equipment for each of

you

you a proper proportion of
Arms as I make a distinction with
you who are so remote from me—

—to a Cherokee who resides among
the Shawanese

You who are among the Shawanese
no doubt you remain with them for
good things, I have listened to your
Speech and shall treat you as I do
other Children—

—a Shawanese gets up and Says—

Father! I have a letter to deliver to you
from Captain Caldwell and have
accompanied your Children the
Cherokees whom we met on the
way much displeased at the man-
ner you treated them, as they receive
only one equipment each which
is not sufficient for those who come
from afar. I pray of you father
to keep your word, which was to
let your Children depart from here
contented, you must therefore open
your heart and give them plentifully
of every thing

Major DePeyster said to the Six Nation's

Brothers. I have already thanked
you for your Compliment on entering
this House and I am pleased to find
that you have the Interest of your
Brethren the Cherokees so much
at heart, for I rejoice to see my
Children united —

Children! the Shawanese
understand that it's the
request of your Nation in general that
the Cherokees receive good treatment,
which is what I always meant to do
to my Children, you have brought to
Detroit a Band whome you found much
discontented although they received
from his Majesty Ammunition, and an equip-
ment each, being so remote, I imagine
it would be of sufficient weight for them
but as I find that it is your wish
they should get other things I shall
order them such

Extract of the Minutes
Ichn Askin Secy

[redacted]

Lieut. A. [illegible]
Major Gen'l
13th Div. Regt. N.Y.S.M.
Comd'g
Headquarters 13th Div. [illegible]

Copy of a Speech from
Upper Sandusky by
Capt. Snake in behalf
of the Mingoes, Shaw-
anese, & Delawares to
Major DePeyster Com-
manding Detroit &c.
Detr. Dam. &c. —

In Sir Haldimand's
(No 3) of 17th July 1782.

4.

Upper Sandoskie June 8th 1782

Copy of a Speech from the Mingoes, Shawanese
& Delawares —

Father.

What we told you this Spring it
was needless to what now granted it to us — your
Petitanie came in good time, We have with your
help defeated the Enemy, There is another Army
coming against us from Kentucke, this we are
certain of not only from Prisoners but from
our young Men who is watching them, Father we
hope you will again grant our request and let the
Mingoes remain at Lower Sandoskie about Ten
days and then march for our Villages, we hope
if possible you will send some more of your people
with Stores, such as is necessary for Warriors, with
Cannon and Provision sufficient to maintain
the Indians you may send to us, this you cannot
do too soon, as we are determined if the Enemy
does not come into our Country that we will go
to theirs and we will give you all the assistance
in our power to transport your Provision and

what

1847 25 10

91

what other necessarys you may want, or have occasion
We hope Sir you will not fail but
send us all assistance, together
with Sloops &c. Comp.
Capt. Drake

Colonies in general, not of their Character, Conduct
is well known & Judicious, Cool and Moderate
tho' at the Same time they are Capable of great Enterprize
and Perseverance. ——— I have the Honor &c.

Signed Fred: Haldimand

Lord Shelburne
(N.º 3.)

Quebec 17th July 1782. —

by the Quebec 18th July.

My Lord,

The King George, a Private Ship,
Sailed from hence the Beginning of the Month. I did
not think that Opportunity Safe for writing to
Your Lordship. In a Letter to Mr. Robinson, I acknow-
=ledged the Receipt of the Dispatches and of Your
Lordship's Letter which were sent by His Majesty's
Ship the Assistance. ———

This Letter goes by the Quebec

armed

Armed Ship Capt. Boyd. He has the Reputation of being a Loyal Subject and as an Officer goes Passenger in it, I have all additional Security that at all Events this Dispatch will not fall into the Hands of the Enemy.

Your Lordship may be assured that I will give the most punctual Obedience in Carrying into Execution the Orders of My Royal Master, with which I have been Honored. I lost no Time in Sending to the Officers Commanding at the different Posts the necessary Orders for preventing Offensive Operations against the Enemy, at the same time that I must observe to Your Lordship, that it will be very difficult for the Officers to restrain the Upper Country Savages. The inclosed Letters from Brig. Gen. Powel and others (N°. 1, 2, 3, 4 & 9) will inform Your Lordship of the State of that Country. I am much afraid that notwithstanding every Effort on the Part of His Majesty's Officers, the wanton and

the Upper Country Savages. The inclosed Letters from Brig.
Gen.l Powel and others (N.os 1, 2, 3 & 4) will inform Your Lordship
of the State of that Country. I am much afraid that notwithstanding
every Effort on the Part of His Majesty's Officers, the wanton and
Barbarous Massacre, which the Rebels Committed upon the
Moravian Indians, will be further and Severely revenged
by the Delawares and other Nations. That act of Cruelty
is to be the more regretted as it awakens in the Indians
that Barbarity & Fierceness, which the unwearied Efforts
of His Majesty's Officers had extinguished. The Indians are
much exasperated against the Rebels for the Cruelties, which
they have upon many Occasions exercised and for the
Encroachments upon their Lands and attacks upon their
Villages, which they have attempted for many Years
and which they are now making in two different

Expeditions

Expeditions under Generals Irving and Clarke, the first of
Whom, Your Lordship will See by a Letter from Maj. Depuyster,
had Just returned from the Congress at Philadelphia, Where
he had been to Concert the Plan of Attack upon the upper
Country, of Which, I am afraid Joseph Brant had had Some
Intimation previous to his Leaving Detroit. I had ordered
him from thence to Oswego, his Influence would be
useful in Engaging the Assistance of the Six Nations
in Establishing the Post, as I yesterday Received Advice
from Major Ross, that as Soon as the Works at
Which I Contrary to all precedent the Indians Wrought
as the Other Troops, were tolerably advanced, Joseph
with a Detachment of Indians & Some of the
Garrison had set off upon an Expedition to the
Mohawk River, Which they Consider as their own
Country, but I hope they Letter, in Consequence of

with a Detachment of Indians & some of the
Garrison had set off upon an Expedition to the
Mohawk River, which they Consider as their own
Country, but I hope my Letters, in Consequence of
the Dispatches will arrive time enough for
Major Ross, who is a Diligent and Deserving Officer,
to recall them before they have done much Mischief.
The same Officer tells me that the Post is well advanced
The Post at Oswego gives great Satisfaction & Confidence
to the Five Nations, and is a Security & Protection
and will Contribute very much to promote the
Fur Trade of this Province, but for my Reasons for
taking Post there, I refer Your Lordship to my
Letter of the 6th June last & Wilkins Esqr
Esq.— I have the Honor to be &c

(Signed) Fred: Haldimand

## XIX.—Marshel to Irvine.

[No date.][1]

*Dear Sir:*—Your favor of the 18th, I have received. I am much surprised indeed at the account you have received from [John] Slover [pilot to the expedition against Sandusky]. The intelligence he gave me was bad, but nothing equal to what he has reported to you. He told me that the Indians expected we would carry another expedition against them this summer, and that, at their council, they had determined on two expeditions, one of which was designed against Wheeling; the other, they were not fully determined whether this country or Kentucky should be the object; that, in the meantime, they would keep out spies on our frontier in order to watch our motions and take a prisoner to know our determination. He did not mention a word to me either of their number or of bringing artillery. He said the Indians informed him that the night our people left the field at Sandusky, there were some British troops from Detroit within a few miles of them (I think seven); that they had two field pieces and one mortar. This I think is nearly what he told me on his arrival.[2] With

[1] The above letter was written about the 20th of July, 1782.

[2] John Slover, one of the guides upon the expedition under Crawford against Sandusky, after his arrival on the frontier and while on his way to Fort Pitt, seems to have had an interview with Marshel. It is evident also from the above letter that what he told him was in brief what he had heard and seen in the wilderness up to the time of his escape from the savages as afterward given more fully to Irvine, and at considerable length to H. H. Brackenridge, who wrote out his narrative (ante, p. 128, note). He gave to the latter, however, no information concerning the presence of British troops on the Sandusky (as he mentioned to Marshel and Irvine) or relative to artillery being brought so near the battle field; at least, nothing is said of either in his published account; nevertheless, his relation concerning them was strictly true.

The following from "The Short Biography of John Leeth" (pp. 15, 16) is, probably, the only account extant of incidents transpiring at Upper Sandusky immediately before the arrival of Crawford's army; it has information also concerning the bringing of cannon by the rangers:

"The spring following, I was married to a young woman, seventeen or eighteen years of age, also a prisoner to the Indians, who had been taken by them when about twenty months old. I was then in my twenty-fourth year. Our place of residence was in Moravian Town [Gnadenhuetten] for about two years; about which time Col. Williams [Col. Daniel Brodhead], an American

regard to his character; I am altogether unacquainted; but I think there is reason to suspect his veracity.[1] I could wish he

officer, took possession of Coshocton [in the spring of 1781]; and shortly after, the British and their Indian allies took Moravian Town, with me, my wife and children, and all the Moravians, prisoners and carried us to [Upper] Sandusky.

"After arriving at [Upper] Sandusky, the British would not suffer me to trade on my own footing and for myself; but five of them having placed their funds into one general stock, employed me to attend to their business for them; and two of them being my old employers, they gave me the same wages as before. Whilst in this employ, Cols. Williams [Williamson] and Crawford marched with an army against Sandusky, at which time I was closely watched by the Indians and had to make my movements with particular regularity, though I had spies going to and fro by whom I could hear every evening where the army was encamped, for several days.

"One evening I was informed the army was only fifteen miles distant [near the present village of Wyandot, Wyandot county, Ohio], when I immediately ser[illegible] the hands to gather the horses, etc., to take our goods to Lower Sandusky. [illegible]ed up the goods (about £1,500 worth in silver, furs, powder, lead, etc.) [illegible] such agility that by the next morning at daylight we started for Lower [illegible]usky. I also took all the cattle belonging to the company along. After [illegible]veling about three miles, I met Capt. [Matthew] Elliott, a British officer; and, about twelve miles farther on, I met the whole British army, composed of Col. Butler's Rangers [a company from Detroit, under the command of Capt. William Caldwell]. They took from me my cattle and let me pass.

"That night I encamped about fourteen miles above Lower Sandusky, when, just after I had encamped and put out my horses to graze, there came to my camp a man who was a French interpreter to the Indians [Francis Le Vellier]. 'Well,' said he, 'I believe I will stay with you to-night and take care of you.' I told him he could remain there for the night, but I intended starting early in the morning. Next morning, after we had got our horses loaded ready to start and the Frenchman had mounted his horse, we heard a cannon fire at Upper Sandusky. The Frenchman clapped his hand to his breast and said, 'I shall be there before the battle is begun;' but, alas, poor fellow! he got there too soon. Without fear or any thought but victory he went on to where a parcel of Indians were painting and preparing for battle; put on a ruffled shirt, and painted a red spot on his breast, saying,—'Here is a mark for the Virginia riflemen;' and shortly after marched with the Indians to battle, where in a short time he received a ball in the very spot and died instantaneously.

"I arrived at Lower Sandusky on the second day, and remained there three days to hear the event. At length the Americans under Col. Williams [Williamson] stole a retreat on the Indians who were gathering around them in great numbers; but Col. Crawford, with most of his men was taken by them. They tomahawked all his men and burnt him alive."

[1] Slover's character was that of an honorable man as already explained (p. 129, note).

might be checked, for the reports he spreads in the country have a most evil tendency.

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XX.—Marshel to Irvine.

*July* 30, 1782.

*Dear Sir:*—This moment came to hand the inclosed circular letter.[1] The account Mr. [Samuel] McColloch gives, no doubt is true; therefore I have directed Colonel [Matthew] Ritchie, sub-lieutenant, to send for such quantity of ammunition as you may think proper to spare. The timely intelligence of the enemy's approach, I think is a very lucky circumstance. The frontier forts are all alarmed as far as the Mingo Bottom [on the east side of the Ohio], and I expect by this evening we shall have a considerable number of men on the frontier. I could wish this alarm might not prevent the proposed meeting at Catfish.

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XXI.—Marshel to Irvine.

*Friday Morning, August* 2, 1782.

*Dear Sir:*—I have just now been informed by express that small party of Indians have been discovered at the Mingo [on the east side of the Ohio] yesterday morning; that they ... about the fort, and that a party (supposed to be large) on the other side of the river has been heard cutting wood both above and below the fort; that some of their party on this side the river took a canoe from the fort last night and has it lying in view on their own shore.

The same express also informs me that the trail of the party which crossed at Glenn's bottom, near Wheeling, has been discovered coming into the settlement up Buffalo creek. They are now supposed to be near Ramsey's fort.

Although I have not yet ascertained with certainty either the situation of the enemy or of our militia, yet I have thought it best to inform you of the circumstance, as perhaps

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[1] From Major Samuel McColloch. See Appendix M,—Bayard to McCleery, August 4, 1782, note.

Dear Sir

July 6th 1792

[illegible]

and after a few days encampment [illegible]
we set off from the Head [illegible]
Settlement of the Kings, and
Branch of Stoney River, [illegible]
near encamped by a [illegible]
that their Scouts were [illegible]
Falls, also upon the Enemy on [illegible]
and in a few days would be upon this Ground [illegible]
Scouts, the time being past that were appointed for the [illegible]
After some difficulty the Six Indians would proceed upon
to turn their course this way, and are now upon this Ground
Lieut. Dennis's last Night, & this day about three Clock
Mannis came in from the Lower Villages, with an account
that another Scout which had been sent out after the arrival of
the One mentioned, was returned, & had discovered the Enemy on
this Ground below the Big Bone Lick, & that they had divided
three of their Party to spy out their Villages & this approach,
they not mentioning to which Nations. And that three days
ago upon crossing the Ohio near the Mouth of the Big Miamis
River, they again discovered a Body of the Enemy who they supposed
to be an advanced Party, that had either fallen in upon their

Trace.

Major DeBuysiet

Detachment would come to Detroit till the arrival of their main Army.

The Chief of the Lower Village informs us they have already sent Messengers to the Upper Indians & all Nations of the Neighbourhood of the Miamies to desire their Assistance as soon as possible & request all who have gone back to Detroit to come back as they may still be in time with us to surprise or fight with the Enemy should occasion may require. They say they are now about two hundred and fifty Men (Chiefs) and determined to Meet the Enemy before they arrive in their Neighbourhood. Those are soon to be joined with all speed by the rest of their Brethren. Captain Lamothe will be here early to-morrow with the Lake Indians. This Evening the Indians of this Town are to be assembled to determine upon going forward. There is several Parties gone to Indian-town to discover their force & Numbers. I shall expect a Prisoner & some further Intelligence & hope it will arrive in time to go by this Express.

Since Writing the above another Runner is arrived with an account that they viewed the Enemy from the top of a Hill near the Mouth of the Miamies three days ago & that they had two large Boats in their Front from which two Cannon were fired every Evening upon coming to their Encamping Ground and that they also saw a Number of Boats with them. They say they are the most formidable Army that has yet come into their Country and from their appearance must intend more than attacking their Villages. The Enemy

J.

If the Mowners will relieve them from so much that and are in hopes we shall have time to collect more Law.

July 23d Captain Baldwin is just come up with the Ld B. but is of opinion that the Encampment will not attack in time. however we shall endeavour to collect as much as we can and Detroit which we hope will be by the 1st Aug. by all accounts. Captain Wells by Law to send his Compliments to you. I am with great respect

Dear Sir

Your most Obed.
Very Humble Servt

Waketomikee
July 23d 1782

A Prisoner says that the Chiefs of the Shawanese and Post Vincent have many of them joined the Enemy & are now with them.

Major DePeyster

1782

From Alex. McKee
Esq. 23 July 1782
Rec.d at Quebec
28th Augt.

Lower Mississippi River
at Red River Landing

1781

From

Major Gen.l Greene

Head Qrs.

Copy

Dear Sir

Orderly Book

Augusta Aug 1st 1802

Sir

I have the honor to inclose you a letter from Mr Gallatin
which was forwarded to me from Washington for that purpose
I am Sir with great respect your most obedient
humble servant

Thos Carnes

Mr Jefferson
President of the United States

Return of Officers, Rangers & Indians of the 6 Nations
under the Direction of Daniel Claus Esqr.

Dear Sir

Montreal 5. August 1702

285

Since the receipt of your favor by last Saturdays Post inclosing me His Excellency the Commander in Chiefs Warrant for Indian Expences. Capt.n John the Mohawk chief arrived from Oswego with a prisoner named Geo.e Nellies related to Nellies in Col.o Johnsons Departm.t whom he took after assisting to collect and destroy the 15. & 16.th Inst.t about 300. head of Cattle about the German Flatts and Canajoharee, three Miles below Fort Henery; as the Pris.r and two Women were driving their Cattle downwards, and while Johns party 8. in Number were taking them they espied a woman coming from below on horseback whom they waylaid & examined & being told that Co.l Willet with 300. Men were close by, the Indians hurried the Pris.r & Women into the Woods, and John lay a little off the Road, and soon saw an Officer on horseback with a Body of Men about that Number pass him, then joined his party & after keeping the women for ab.t a couple of hours for fear of being discovered, dismissed them & proceeded thro the woods and coming upon the Tracks of the collected Cattle drove by 50. Ind.s they soon saw that there was a party of Rebels in pursuit after them, they followed the Rebels till Night and encamped not far from them, and finding in the Morning that they did not pursue the Cattle any farther they left them & soon overtook the Cattle, the above Circumstance happened betwixt the 17. & 18.th Inst.t and the 21. they got to Oswego.

The

Captain Mathews

the Prisoner says that the Country was alarmed the 16. Inst. in the Evening by an Express from Fort Dalton who reported that but 3. or 4. Cattle were left alive at the Flatts, and it was thought that Settlement must break up. That Colo. Willet was at Fort Blank when the News of the Enemy was brought, that he only brought 40. Men with him from below, which added to those before upon the communication between Schenectady & the Flatts might amount to abt 300. in the whole. That there was a Talk of a Cessation of Hostilities in the Spring, but since the many Incursions of the Indians people gave up all hopes tho very much tired of the War. That it was wispered among the People of the French Fleets being beat in the West Indias, but soon after currently reported that it would soon appear before N York. That Genl Washington when at Schenectady promised to send 500. Men more for the Protection of the Inhabitants, tho' he heard that the 15th Man was to be drafted of the Militia to join the Army below. The Prisoner is about 30. and has his Father in Law & Bro. in the Roy. Yorkers prefers joining them to going to jail and says he was forced to take the last Oath tho conditionally, this is all I could learn of him. —

Now with Regard to what you mention of his Excellency's Concern about the Great Expence so small a part of the six Nations as are in this Province should occasion unjustly. — I must allow it would certainly be the case were the Mohawks alone to incurr it; But my Expences as Deputy under the late Sir Wm Johnson for 15. Yrs & chiefly acting in this Province might show if Necessary, that since the Conquest of Canada when the Nats in a Manner reunited themselves to those Indians who formerly emigrated from their Country and had frequent Meetings & Council together in Conjunction with the Agent for their Affairs, which Intercourse they still keep up, and has made & still makes a considerable part of my yearly Expence. — I can with Truth assure His Excellency, that my greatest Concern & Trouble in the Employ I hold under him is my endeavouring to lessen the Expence they occasion to Government by persuading and arguing them out of their numerous Demands, for you know as a free Independ. People as they look upon themselves they cannot brook a flatt Denial. — You will likewise agree with me that Indns

who

who lived near, and have been used to the Customs & Conveniencies of
White people, and as they say sacrificed their Case & property to the
Fidelity for their Sovereign, will expect more Favour & Indulgence than
others who in Reality cannot have that Claim. And the Example
and Zeal of the Mohawks residing in this Province, I am convinced
has had that Influence & Effect with the Domicilians of Canada
: who after the Campaign with General Burgoyne returned dis-
gusted & positively declared to me they would not serve again : as to
follow their Example and be of that Service they have hitherto been.

His Excellency will likewise please to recollect that the
Mohawks on his Arrival were under Col. Campells Care, from
whom I received them better cloathed and circumstanced than they
now are, as having never had the Benefit of the presents sent
Yearly from England, except a few Rings & some Rifles in the
Indian way for the first 6 Months, which I found Col. Campbell
was mostly obliged to purchase himself when to save double
Trouble I had them purchased myself. — The Mohawks were
invited to join their Friends at Niagara when Col. Butler was down
in 1779. I happend then to be at Quebec, when they said they told
him in Answer, that as His Excellency General Haldimand, on
his Arrival here received them so friendly & kindly and desired to
fix themselves in His province during the Troubles, they with Joy
accepted his Offer and settled themselves under his Protection
and Care during the war & after that intended to return to their
own Country. Their Village consists now of forty odd Huts some
Framed & floord & covered with Bark, besides a place for Church
School and a Council House. At the same Time I inclose you
Agreable to His Excellencys Desire the State of White People &
Indians under my Direction, and shall have my Accompts
arranged to the Time you mention for the Inspection of Mr.
Goddard. — But as to the general Burden of Ind.n Expences
Government complain off they in my humble Opinion might
have been better remedied & checked after Sr. Wm. Johnsons Decease
when new Officers were appointed, for if one & Precedence of this
new Extravagance is introduced into a Department its very difficult to with-
draw it in particular from uncivilized People, and which was chiefly
the Occasion of the Ind.n War in 62. 63. & 64. & which was only put in Train
after the Conquest of Canada. — Should any Services in the
Ind.n Department be required after this War, which rather would
wish not to be the Case : I certainly would at all Events decline
having any thing to do with the Disbursements of Ind.n Expences,

as

as I can declare & make it appear to the World, that during my 30. Years Employ in that Service, the Management of those Expences was the most disagreable & troublesome part of Office, tho I can with pleasure reflect that during my 15. years acting as Deputy in Canada, Government will have no Reason to complain about the Expence of that Indn. Department as I am pretty confident that one fourth of the present Yearly Expence of that Nature in Canada, would defray the whole 15. years of my Agency, & the Indns at the same time employed in clean up their own Colour & their Services and nothing heard of Discontent. I could say a good deal more upon that subject but I dare say to have tired your Patience enough already & you will pardon me & believe me to be with great

Dear Sir

Your most Obedient and
humble Servant
D. W. Claus.

Sir John Johnson Bart
&c. &c. &c.

1789

Montreal 12 Augt 1782.

287

Dear Sir —

Last Saturday arrived here Capt.n Brant from Oswego, and delivered me Letters to His Excellency the Commander in chief; Yourself Major Lernault & Capt Fitzg, which I have forwarded by this Post.

He came down with David a Mohawk chief and Teka-eayoh a Cayouga chief whom he left in the Mohawk Village.

Ct Brant tells me he had given Major Ross an Accot of his last Scout, which he says the Major told him he had reported to His Excellency the General, and only requested me

Captain Matthews
&c &c &c

me to acquaint His Excell.y thro' You of his Arrival here waiting His Commands, whether and when His Excellency would chuse he should attend on him. He went Yesterday to the Mohawk Village in order to bring his Fellow Travellers to Town and at the same time to talk over a drole Affair that happen'd when Capt. John Kparty were lately at the upper Canajoharee Village, which is this.— After passing the House where Mary Brant formerly lived, at present occupied by One Stanley an Irish Ensign who took Possession of it after Orrie the Affair with Cattle &every thing she left there, he has since secured the house with Pickets, after John passed he laid by and soon after two Indians came out on Horseback, and passing his party they were seized, One was taken, who proved to be Stanleys Son, the other struggling to get off was shot by

a

a Young Delaware Indian belong.g to the party who being close to him drove his whole charge thro his Thigh or Back, that the Ball could be felt in the lower part of his Belly, which Indian proved to be from Sault S.t Louis, son to one Philip alias Sonorise a Mallatoe formerly taken on the Mohk.k Riv.r during the Struggle Han Nays son took the Opportunity to slip off, and the Caghnawagey Ind.n was left upon the Spot for dead. Now since the Caghnawageys heard of the Affair they seem to take Umbrage at it, and Joseph says expect the Mohawks will condole with them for their Loss and according to their Custom take the War Axe out, wch they Stuck in their head, this would appear as if the Mohawks were sorry for what had happened & making themselves guilty of a Trespass ag.st the Caghnaw.s which must create Animosities & Disputes. And I advised Joseph to do nothing further in the Affair, 'till they heard His Excell.y the Governors Sentiments thereupon, who might direct Col.o Campbell to explain the Matter to the Caghnawageys in

its

its due Light, and by a good Belt of Wampum
make them bury it Oblivion.

I am with much Esteem

Dear Sir

Your most Obedient
& Humble Servant

Mr. Wm. Johnson

Copy

Quebec 15th August 1762

289

Dear Sir

Yesterday's Post brought the Favor Letter of the 12th Instant communicating the Arrival of Our Friend Joseph, and the Circumstance of the Caghnawaga Indian being shot by a Delaware, Which I have laid before His Excellency the Commander in Chief, who considers the Affair in the same light with You & Joseph, but would rather relinquish any little Point than risque the Chance of a Misunderstanding between the two Nations, should any Concessions be disputed by the Caghnawagas, & agreed to by the Mohawks — The former had got into bad Company & in fact should be considered as an Enemy — His Excellency writes to Colonel Campbell upon the Subject & leaves it to You and Him to accommodate the Matter in such Manner as is most likely to please both Parties, in Which the General is persuaded Joseph Will be a useful Mediator. I have Written to Joseph by the Generals Desire, He wished to See him here, but it will be Delayed for some short time by a Journey Sir John Johnson will propose to Him, of Which is Communicated in my Letter — it shall Materially interfere with any Scheme Joseph May have in View, the General does not insist upon his going. ———

Time would not permit my Acknowledging by the last Post Your favor Covering a general Draft of Your Accts., Which I punctually laid before His Excellency the Commander in Chief.

I am &c. Signed / R. M.

Colonel Claus ———

Copy

1782

Colonel Clarke's

the 15th Regt

The Committee of the Week Report:

That the letter from John Mitchell late D. Q. M. G. complaining that a suit has been brought against him for articles purchased for use of the Army, be sent to the Legislature of the State of Pennsylvania to make provision as required by the requisition of Congress of the 19th March 1782.[1]

The Committee of the Week Report:

A memorial from James Smith late A. C. Purchases complaining of sundry suits being brought against him for purchases made for the use of the United States, and praying for monies to enable him to discharge his debts &c

The Committee beg leave to recommend that so much of the said memorial as respects the suits brought against the said Smith be sent to the Legislature of the State of Pennsylvania and that the remainder of the said memorial be referred to the ~~Comptroller of Accounts~~ Superintendant of Finance.[2]

## MONDAY, AUGUST 19, 1782

Mr. [Turbett] Wright, a delegate for Maryland, returned, and took his seat.

*Ordered,* That the petition of Jellis Fonda, praying payment for provisions furnished the Oneidas and Tuscaroras, for which actions are commenced against him, be referred to the Superintendant of Finance to take order.[3]

[1] This report, in the writing of Samuel John Atlee, is in the *Papers of the Continental Congress*, No. 32, folio 385. It is undated but belongs to this period.

[2] This report, in the writing of Samuel John Atlee, is in the *Papers of the Continental Congress*, No. 32, folio 383. It is undated, but belongs to this period.

On this day, according to the indorsement, a letter of August 4, from the Governor of New York, transmitting concurrent resolutions of the legislature of New York, of July 21 and 22, was referred to the Grand Committee. The letter is in No. 78, VI, folio 139. Committee Book No. 186 shows that the resolutions were "on the present situation of affairs, for augmenting the powers of Congress," and that the Grand Committee was discharged April 28, 1783, and the business referred to a committee of five.

[3] This order was entered only in the journal kept by the Secretary of Congress for the Superintendant of Finance: *Morris Papers, Congressional proceedings.*

On this day, according to the indorsement, a memorial of Colonel Lewis Nicola was read. It is in the *Papers of the Continental Congress*, No. 41, VII, folio 88.

**TUESDAY, AUGUST 20, 1782**

The committee, consisting of Mr. [Daniel] Carroll, Mr. [Edmund] Randolph and Mr. [Joseph] Montgomery, to whom was referred the report of a committee on instructions to the delegates of Massachusetts, ~~relative to the fisheries~~ having reported, "that the facts and observations collected by the committee, be referred to the Secretary for foreign affairs to be by him digested, completed, and transmitted to the ministers plenipotentiary of the United States for negotiating a treaty of peace."

The Committee to whom was referred the Report of a Committee to whom was referred the instruction to the Delegates of Massachusetts Bay have collected the facts and observations herewith reported to Congress, which they recommend to be referred to the Secretary for Foreign Affairs to be by him digested, completed and transmitted to the Ministers Plenipotentiary for negotiating peace for their information and use.[1]

On the 17th of November, 1781, the delegates for Massachusetts laid before Congress the following act of the legislature of that State.

"COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS,

"*Oct. 27, 1781.*

"It appearing to this court of the highest importance to the United States in general, and to this State in particular, that the right to the fisheries heretofore enjoyed by the subjects of the United States, should in a future settlement of peace be acknowledged and secured to them: Therefore,

"*Resolved*, That the delegates in Congress for this Commonwealth be and they are hereby instructed, to represent to Congress the importance of the fisheries to this State, and to use their utmost influence that instructions be given to the ministers appointed by Congress

[1] This paragraph, in the writing of James Madison, is in the *Papers of the Continental Congress*, No. 20, I, folio 87.

for negotiating a peace, in the most pressing manner to insist, that the free and unmolested exercise of this right be continued and secured to the subjects of the United States of America, in a future settlement of peace.

"*And it is further resolved*, That the secretary be and he is hereby directed, to forward the aforegoing resolve without delay to the delegates in Congress for this Commonwealth."

The aforegoing, together with sundry papers relative to the fisheries, was referred to a committee, consisting of Mr. [James] Lovell, Mr. [Daniel] Carroll and Mr. [James] Madison, who on the 8th January, 1782, reported as follows:

The committee to whom were referred the several papers relating to the fisheries have duly considered the same, and are of opinion, that the best security for this object, short of admitting it into the ultimatum for peace, will be a representation to his Most Christian Majesty, through our ministers for negotiating peace, of its great importance to the United States, and of the grounds upon which it is claimed and expected; and being also of opinion that a like representation touching the other claims of the United States excluded from the ultimatum would have a tendency no less salutary, they have prepared instructions to the said ministers in this comprehensive plan, and report the same as follows for the consideration of Congress:

That the ministers plenipotentiary for negotiating peace, or in case they should not be convened, the minister plenipotentiary at the Court of Versailles, be instructed to acquaint his Most Christian Majesty, that notwithstanding the occasion presented to the United States, by the signal and various advantages gained over the enemy, of enlarging their ultimatum for peace, the firm reliance which Congress have on the friendship

and influence of his Majesty has determined them not to depart from their resolution of the day of last, by which all the objects of their desires and expectations, excepting only the independence of the United States and their alliance with his Majesty, are eventually submitted to his councils. But that in order to make him more fully sensible of the extent and foundation of these desires and expectations, have thought it expedient that some observations should be made to him relative to the several objects which are most likely to fall within the compass of negotiation.

One of these objects, and which is intimately connected with the independence of the United States, is the exterior boundary by which their extent is to be defined. On this occasion it is to be observed, that our contest will be with his Britannick Majesty alone. Under his authority the limits of these states, while in the character of colonies, were established; to these limits the United States, considered as independent sovereignties, have succeeded. Whatsoever territorial rights, therefore, belonged to them before the Revolution, were necessarily devolved upon them at the era of independence.

Those grounds support the assertion, that the United States are bounded as they are declared to be in the instructions given to Mr. Adams on the day of August, 1779.

As the efforts of his Britannick Majesty will be principally directed against the western and northwestern boundary, the observations on this subject may be confined thereto.

The treaty of Paris of 1763, to which his Most Christian Majesty and the British king were parties, restricted those colonies, which were before extended by their charters to the sea, to the river Mississippi.

To this river then these states will still extend in the same manner, unless by some subsequent constitutional and rightful act their limits have been abridged.

The negotiations on this head will probably assume a variety of forms. None perhaps will be more strenuously urged than those which arise from his Britannick Majesty's proclamation on the 7th day of October, 1763, the treaty of Fort Stanwix, in 1768, between him and the Six Nations, and the British statute in 1774, establishing, among other things, the boundaries of Quebec.

1. If it can be supposed that the purpose of the proclamation was to affect the boundaries of the United States, it must be remembered to be the act of the very prince against whom we contend; that it preceded, a short time only, the manifestation of those wicked and oppressive measures which gave birth to the Revolution; and that it directly interfered with the rights accruing to the colonies by the ancient and more solemn acts of his predecessors.

But by the prohibition to the governours of the other colonies than of Quebec, East Florida, or West Florida, to grant warrants of survey, or pass patents "for the present, and until his (the British king's) farther pleasure should be known," for any lands beyond the heads or sources of any of the rivers, which fall into the Atlantick ocean from the west and northwest, is strongly shown an opinion that there were lands beyond the heads of those rivers within the grants of the governours.

By the prohibition too to grant warrants of survey, or pass patents for any lands whatever, which, "not having been ceded to or purchased by the British king, were reserved to the Indians, or any of them," a restriction of territory could not have been designed by a king, who granted the charters to the colonies, knowing that they would interfere with the rights of the Indians, who

has always considered a cession, or purchase from the Indians, not so much the source of a title as a milder means of preventing their hostility, who, since the date of the proclamation, has granted through the prohibited governours themselves large quantities of land beyond the heads of those rivers, and whose own geographer, in a map describing and distinguishing the British, Spanish and French dominions in America, according to the aforesaid treaty of Paris, carries the states of Georgia, North Carolina, South Carolina and Virginia, as far as the Mississippi.

In a word, this part of the proclamation seems to have been intended merely to shut up the land offices, not to curtail limits; to keep the Indians in peace, not to relinquish the rights accruing under the charters, and particularly that of pre-emption.

2. The treaty of Fort Stanwix is susceptible of a similar answer, by viewing it as an instrument of peace, not the conveyance of a title. For there is reason to believe, that the British king has never ratified it; and yet it is notorious that his governours have granted lands within the cession then made.

If it be said that the authority to grant those lands was derived from the treaty of Lancaster, in 1744, here then is a forcible illustration of our doctrine. For on what principle, but on account of peace, could the British king have attempted to procure a new cession of the same country? On the other hand, if the authority to grant those lands was not derived from the treaty of Lancaster, it can rest on no other foundation than that of his charters.

3. The Quebec act is one of the multiplied causes of our opposition, and finally of the Revolution. No stress, therefore, ought to be laid on it, even if in its operation it abridged the boundaries of the states. But the pro-

vision, that nothing therein contained relative to the boundary of the province of Quebec should in any wise affect the boundaries of any other colony, excludes such an operation, and confirms chartered rights.

Should Great Britain retain that portion of the United States bordering on the Mississippi, the neighbourhood of her possessions will be imminently dangerous to our peace. Should she also retain Canada and West Florida, or even Canada alone, by applying herself to the settlement of that country, and pushing on her trade there with vigour, a new nursery for her marine will speedily be established.

From a full confidence that the western territory now contended for lay within the United States, the British posts therein have been reduced by our citizens, and American government is now exercised within the same; large bounties of land have been promised to the army; and we have relied on it as an important source for discharging the debts incurred during the war.

For a considerable distance beyond the Apalachian mountains, and particularly on the Ohio, American citizens are actually settled at this day. By the surrender therefore of the western territory to Great Britain, a large number of fencible men, men too who have not been behind any of their fellow citizens in the struggle for liberty, would be thrown back within her power.

But a decisive objection exists against this mutilation of our country, that the principle by which it would be limited to the distance of a mile only from the Mississippi, would justify mutilations to an immense extent.

~~Another object in which these states are not less interested is their common right of fishing in the North American seas and particularly on the banks of Newfoundland. With respect to this claim of the United States the said ministers are instructed~~

Another claim is the common right of the United States to take fish in the North American seas, and particularly on the banks of Newfoundland. With respect to this object, the said ministers are instructed to consider and contend for it, as described in the instructions relative to a treaty of commerce, given to John Adams on the twenty-ninth of September, 1779, as equally desired and expected by Congress with any of the other claims not made ultimata in the instructions given to the ministers plenipotentiary for negotiating a peace on the day of last, and are therein referred to as objects of the desires and expectations of Congress. They are also instructed to observe to his Most Christian Majesty with respect to this claim, that it does not extend to any parts of the sea lying within three leagues of the shores held by Great Britain or any other nation. That under this limitation it is conceived by Congress, a common right of taking fish cannot be denied to them without a manifest violation of the freedom of the seas, as established by the law of nations, and the dictates of reason; according to both which the use of the sea, except such parts thereof as lie in the vicinity of the shore, and are deemed appurtenant thereto, is common to all nations, those only excepted who have either by positive convention, or by long and silent acquiescense under exclusion, renounced that common right; that neither of these exceptions militate against the claim of the United States, since it does not extend to the vicinity of the shore, and since they are so far from having either expressly or tacitly renounced their right, that they were prior to the war, though indeed not in the character of an independent nation, in the constant, and even during the war, in the occasional exercise of it; and that although a greater space than three leagues has in some instances been, both by publick

treaties and by custom, annexed to the shore as part of the same dominion, yet, as it is the present aim of the maritime powers to circumscribe, as far as reason will justify, all exclusive pretensions to the sea, and as that is the distance specified in a treaty to which both Great Britain and his Majesty are parties, and which relates to the very object in question, it was supposed that no other distance could, in the present case, be more properly assumed; that if a greater or an indefinite distance should be alleged to be appurtenant by the law of nations to the shore, it may be answered, that the fisheries in question, even those on the banks of Newfoundland, being of so vast an extent, might with much greater reason be deemed appurtenant to the whole continent of North America than to the inconsiderable portion of it held by Great Britain; that Congress expect, with greater assurance, the concurrence of his Majesty in these ideas, since his own claim to the fisheries would, by a contrary doctrine, be suspended on the mere concession of Great Britain, instead of resting on the solid and honourable basis of the law of nations, and of right; that if Great Britain cannot, by virtue of her occupancy of the shore, claim an exclusive use of the fisheries beyond the vicinity thereof, and a right to the common use is incident to the United States as a free and independent community, they cannot admit that they have no such right, without renouncing an attribute of that sovereignty which they are bound, as well by respect for his Majesty's honour as for their own interests and dignity, to maintain entire; that this right is no less indispensable in its exercise than it is indisputable in its principles, the inhabitants of a considerable part of the United States being dependent thereon, both for a material proportion of their subsistence, and for the means of their commerce; and as

they were in the full enjoyment of this resource prior to the Revolution, the loss of it by an event from which very different expectations have been cherished, and which ought to bestow, as far as possible, equal advantages on all who have laboured equally for its accomplishment, could not fail to be attended with disappointment, and mortifying comparisons: that from these considerations, Congress have the most earnest desire, as well as the most sanguine hope, that his Majesty's efforts will obtain for his allies a stipulation on the part of Great Britain, not to molest them in the common use of the fisheries, as above stated; or, if insuperable difficulties should oppose a positive stipulation in their favour, that his Majesty will in every event find means to avoid a surrender of that common right; that whilst, however, this latter expedient is suggested to his Majesty, it cannot escape his discernment that it is so pregnant with dangerous consequences, that the former cannot be contended for with too much urgency and zeal.

That with respect to the confiscated property of those who have adhered to the interests of the enemy, and which may possibly be claimed for the former owners, the aforesaid ministers are to observe to his Majesty, that these confiscations having taken place, more or less, in almost all the states; and having undergone various transfers from individual to individual, a specifick restitution is absolutely impracticable; and when the vast amount of them is compared with the ravages and burdens which the war will leave behind it, an equivalent restitution would be little less than impracticable; that as the general usage of nations, as well as the particular law of Great Britain, excludes aliens from holding real and immoveable estates, the moment our national independence was assumed, the titles of all those who, on or prior to that event, espoused

the side of the enemy, became, under strict construction, extinct; and that such as afterwards deserted to them, falling under the denomination of traitors, have forfeited not only their estates but their lives to their country; that although it were to be admitted that the peculiarity of circumstances which distinguish the present war between the United States and Great Britain, from a war between two nations seperate and independent at its origin, affords some plea for reversing the confiscations, this consideration is far outweighed by the great value of which the citizens of these states have, contrary to the laws of war, been despoiled by the enemy, and the still greater losses which they have suffered from wanton destruction; in both which, those who have fled, or been expelled from their country, have been often the chief instigators and instruments; and by the first of which, many of them have enriched themselves greatly beyond their losses.

That the ministers further observe to his Majesty, that any stipulations authorising such fugitives and exiles from their country to return into it, would not only be dishonourable to the governments of these states, but so obnoxious to the people at large, and especially to such as have been the objects of their outrages, that it is the particular wish of Congress that it may be most strenuously opposed; that such a permission is the more to be dreaded, as it could only be intended for such as are totally devoid both of honour and sensibility, who alone would avail themselves of a privilege that would subject them to the indignation and resentments which they had provoked.

That as it is not improbable the subject of commerce will, among others, be introduced into the negotiation, the ministers be instructed to observe thereon to his Most Christian Majesty, that the United States,

as a free and sovereign nation, being the absolute masters as well of their commerce as of their government, no claim of right can nor probably will, be pretended with respect to the former, by those who relinquish such pretension with respect to the latter; that it is the wish and the policy of the United States to preserve their commerce as unfettered as possible with stipulations in favour of nations with which they are now unconnected, and particularly of that with which they are now at war; that this policy cannot but coincide with the sentiments of his Majesty, since it alone will leave to his allies the future opportunity of manifesting their preference of his interests to those of his enemies and rivals; that Congress do for these reasons most earnestly desire, expect and entreat that his Majesty will spare no efforts that may be necessary to exclude from a treaty every article which would restrain the United States from imposing on the trade of Great Britain any duties, restrictions or prohibitions which may hereafter be judged expedient; unless, and so far only, as a relaxation in this point may be essentially necessary for obtaining peace, or the several objects above mentioned.[1]

On the 22d of January, 1782, the foregoing report was referred to another committee, consisting of Mr. [Daniel] Carroll, Mr. [Edmund] Randolph and Mr. [Joseph] Montgomery, who on the 16th day of August, 1782, reported, that they have collected facts and observations as follows, which they recommend to be referred to the Secretary for foreign affairs, to be by him digested, completed and transmitted to the ministers plenipotentiary for negotiating a peace, for their information and use.

[1] This report, in the writing of James Madison, is in the *Papers of the Continental Congress*, No. 20, I, folio 75–83.

~~The Committee to whom was referred the report of the Committee containing instructions to the ministers of the United States concerning those objects, which are not made ultimata report as follows:~~

~~*Resolved*, That the following instructions be given to the ministers Plenipotentiary of the United States for negotiating a peace.~~

~~Gentlemen,~~

~~Although by our act of the day of last we excluded the boundaries of the United States from the ultimata of peace, and by a subsequent act of the day of which repealed the separate powers of Mr. J. Adams to enter into a treaty of commerce with Great Britain the fisheries were reduced to the condition of other objects not made ultimata, yet our late resolution of the day of January will evince our solicitude for the acquisition of both. This solicitude impels us to suggest to you those considerations which may establish or explain our pretensions.~~

Facts and Observations in support of the several Claims of the United States not included in their Ultimatum of the 15th of June, 1781.

1. Our common right to take fish in the North American seas, and particularly in that part of them which goes under the name of the Banks of Newfoundland, has its origin in the natural incapacity of the sea to be appropriated.

The practice of nations hath, for the sake of safety and tranquillity, abridged this freedom of the ocean, by annexing to the coast a reasonable tract of the water; and Great Britain, by availing herself of this usage, ~~will probably~~ may possibly arrogate the exclusive enjoyment of the banks, as appurtenant to the Island of Newfoundland.

These banks, the nearest point of which is thirty-five leagues distant from Cape Race, are too far advanced in the Atlantick to be a dependance of the shores.[a] There has been great ~~schism~~ division among writers in determining to what extent the sea is to be considered as incidental to the territory which it washes. Some have apportioned one hundred miles, other sixty, and

others as much as could be seen from land in a fair day. See Anderson's history of commerce, 2 vol. 17, appendix.

If we pass from theory to the stipulations of treaties, we shall find better aid, but by no means uniformity. By better aid, we mean British precedents; for against these, a British king surely will not struggle.

[b] In the second year of James the first, commissioners were appointed on the part of England and Scotland, to treat of and conclude a union between the two kingdoms. By the articles for the regulation of trade, the sea, for the space of fourteen miles from the coast of Scotland, was reserved to Scotchmen only; and it was reciprocally provided in favour of Englishmen. See Spotswood's history of Scotland, 483, and 2 Anderson, Appendix, 17.

Should this example be thought to lose the force of its application, from having been the agreement of the subjects of one and the same prince, a letter may be quoted from Secretary Staunton to Lord Carlton, the English ambassador at the Hague, bearing date the 21st of January, 1618. In it the ambassador is commanded to urge the States General, in the name of King James, to publish a placart prohibiting their subjects to fish within fourteen miles of his coasts until the main business should be finally accommodated by commissioners.

[c] The treaty of Paris, in 1763, to which his Most Christian Majesty as well as his Britannick Majesty was a party, excludes the French from the exercise of the fishery in the Gulf of St. Lawrence only within three leagues from the shore, extending the distance round Cape Breton to fifteen leagues.

[d] By inspecting the ancient treaties between England and the dukes of Brittany and Burgundy, ~~the liberty of fishing is not restrained~~ we shall find that the

portion of the sea which is supposed to belong to the coast is so far from being increased beyond fourteen miles, or even three leagues, that the liberty of fishing in every part thereof is asserted. See treaties between Henry sixth, and the Duchess of Burgundy; Edward fourth, and Francis, Duke of Brittany; Henry seventh, and Philip fourth, Arch Duke of Austria; and Duke of Burgundy and Henry eighth and Charles fifth, Emperor and Duke of Burgundy.

Had the kings of England esteemed the fisheries the property of the crown, they would not have admitted aliens to a promiscuous fishing with their own subjects without some valuable consideration, or an acknowledgment by way of *salvo jure*. But, instead of a proceeding like this, they have in a succession of ages deliberately omitted to challenge to themselves the sole right of the fisheries.

[e] Queen Elizabeth too, being involved in a dispute with the king of Denmark concerning the fishery at Wardhuys, near the North Cape, instructs her plenipotentiaries to deny that "the property of the sea at any distance whatsoever is consequent to the banks." The king of Denmark does not attempt in his reply to establish what she had thus denied, but rests his exclusive claims upon the authority of old treaties between the two crowns. See Rymer's Foedera, tom. 16th, p. 425.

Thus it appears that, upon strict principles of natural law, the sea is unsusceptible of appropriation; that a species of conventional law has annexed a reasonable district of it to the coast which borders on it; and that in many of the treaties to which Great Britain has acceded, no distance has been assumed for this purpose beyond fourteen miles.

Were these rules then allowed to influence the pretensions of Great Britain with respect to the banks of Newfoundland, they would be readily condemned. Nor could they be supported, were the sea appendant to the shore as far as thirty leagues, the greatest distance, perhaps, which has at any time been ceded to the king of England by treaty.

Nations may indeed, either by positive contract, or by long and silent acquiescence under exclusion, renounce their privileges in the sea. But the United States have not only never disclaimed their right of fishing therein, but have been in the constant enjoyment of it during the existence of British government, and occasionally so ever since the Revolution.

It deserves attention, that the fisheries furnish the inhabitants of a considerable part of the United States with an important proportion of their subsistence, and the means of their commerce. Should they lose this resource by the accomplishment of independence, an event from which very different expectations have been cherished, and which ought to bestow equal advantages on all who have laboured equally in giving birth to it, such a loss cannot fail to be attended with disappointment and mortifying comparisons.[1]

As it is the aim of the maritime powers to circumscribe, as far as equity will suffer, all exclusive claims to the sea, we trust that his Most Christian Majesty will coincide with our present doctrines.[2] Perhaps, however,

[1] This sentence was changed in the draft by John Rutledge to read: "Should they lose this resource by the accomplishment of independence it would be an event from which very different expectations have been cherished, and attended with the most mortifying disappointment," but Congress appears to have adopted the draft in the original form.

[2] This sentence was changed in the draft by John Rutledge to read: * * * "will coincide with our views," and all thereafter up to the paragraph beginning: "New Hampshire claims," etc., was struck out by him. Congress, however, appears to have adopted the draft in its original form, except for the paragraph which is struck out in the text.

the ninth and tenth articles of the treaty of amity and commerce may be supposed, from a little ambiguity in their language, to forbid us to insist on a participation of the fisheries on the banks of Newfoundland and in the Gulf of St. Lawrence, as being frequented and enjoyed by the subjects of France. But what is the genuine construction of these articles?

The ninth begins with a general stipulation, that the subjects of one party shall abstain from fishing in all places possessed or to be possessed by the other; interdicts those of France from fishing in the havens, bays, creeks, roads, coasts or places which the United States hold, or shall hereafter hold, as well as the inhabitants of the United States, from fishing in the havens, bays, creeks, roads, coasts or places which the Most Christian King possesses, or shall hereafter possess. But this exclusion is to take place only so long and so far as an exemption shall not in this respect have been granted to some other nation.

The tenth article binds the United States and their citizens not to disturb the subjects of the Most Christian King in the exercise of the right of fishing on the banks of Newfoundland, nor in their indefinite and exclusive privileges on the coast of the island of that name, conformably to the true sense and meaning of the treaties of Utrecht and Paris.[f]

If it can be truly said, that the fisheries in the Gulf of St. Lawrence and on the banks of Newfoundland are possessed or holden by France, the citizens of the United States are entitled, according to the provision of the ninth article, to like access with the subjects of Great Britain.

But the sea cannot be holden or possessed, these terms implying appropriation. They accord well with havens, bays, creeks, roads or coasts; and also with

"places," should this word be confined, as it ought to be in its interpretation, to waters susceptible of occupancy.

Had it been conceived that the ninth article debarred the United States from fishing on the banks of Newfoundland, it would have been unnecessary to guard in the tenth against the molestation of the French in fishing there. Besides, an engagement not to disturb, does of itself import that the citizens of the United States may fish, if they do not disturb.

There seems too a remarkable antithesis between the right of fishing and the right derived from the treaty of Utrecht, as to the coast of the island of Newfoundland. The former is called simply the enjoyment and exercise of the right of fishing; but the latter is more pointedly denominated indefinite and exclusive. In a word, we are persuaded, from our experience of the candour and friendship of his Most Christian Majesty, that it was not his design to depress the United States by thrusting them from a share of the fisheries, which Providence appears to have destined for their use; but rather to secure the fisheries of his own country from encroachment, and his subjects from interruption in those of America.

~~II. Our confidence in your historical knowledge rescues us from the labour of a minute account of the American settlements; we shall therefore exhibit in the discussion of our boundaries a summary only of our title, and even in this we shall avoid the mention of the adjustment of limits or of disputes concerning them between different States unless the general enquiry can receive light from such adjustment or disputes.~~

2. With respect to the boundaries of the states. The patent to the council of Plymouth, bearing date the 18th of November, 1620, is the parent from which the eastern states proceed.[g]

New Hampshire claims under the royal commission appointing Benning Wentworth, esquire, governour of that province,[h] on the 13th July, in the fifteenth year of the reign of George the second.

Massachusetts claims under the charter granted by William and Mary, on the 7th October, 1691. The treaty of Paris fixes the Mississippi as the western limit of the old colony of Massachusetts Bay, which is one of the colonies incorporated by that charter.[i] See old charter of 4th March, 1628–9.

The charter of April 23, 1662, granted by Charles the second to Winthrop and others, is the ground of the territorial claims of Connecticut. The treaty of Paris is allowed to restrict that State also to the Mississippi.[j]

On the 8th July, 1662, the same prince granted the charter under which Rhode Island claims.[k]

New York assigns, as sources of her title, the grant from Charles second to the Duke of York, in 1663–4, the capitulation of the Dutch in the same year, the treaty of Westminster, 1674, and the renewal or confirmation of the duke's grant immediately after the treaty. This State adds, that the lands on the west side of Connecticut river belong to it under the farther title accruing by the subjection of the Five Nations, the native proprietors; and that the country, as far northward as the river St. Lawrence, and westward without known limits, is the property of New York, as having been formerly possessed by those tribes of Indians and their tributaries. The treaties with those nations in 1684, 1701, 1726, 1744, and 1754, are particularly referred to.[l]

On the 23d June, 1664, the Duke of York conveyed, out of his aforesaid grant to Lord Berkeley and Sir George Carteret, the limits which New Jersey claims. Upon this ground, and the resignation of the govern-

ment into the hands of the crown on the 14th August, 1703, is the title of this State built.[m]

Pensylvania claims under the charter granted by Charles the second, on the 4th of March, 1681–2, to William Penn.[n]

Delaware claims under two grants from the Duke of York to William Penn, on the 24th August, 1683.[o]

On the 20th June, 1632, Charles the first granted to Lord Baltimore the limits which Maryland claims.[p]

Virginia claims under the charter granted by James first, on the 23d of May, 1609, to the treasurer and company, the resumption of the country into the hands of the king, and the charter of Charles second to the colony of Virginia, on the 10th October, 1676. The treaty of Paris marks its western boundary.[q]

North Carolina and South Carolina claim jointly in the first instance under the charter of 1662, to Clarendon and others, and its confirmation in 1664, with an extension of limits. The British statute of 1729, enabling the king to pay the consideration of the surrender of the proprietors, makes a material point in their case. The seperate claims of these two states depend upon the act which divided them. The treaty of Paris defines the western boundary of each.[r]

The first grant on which Georgia relies, is that made to the trustees on the 8th June, 1732, and limited to the west by the treaty of Paris. The second grant is the proclamation of 1763.[s]

Were the lands included within these limits merely such as were granted to individuals and settled, or granted and not settled, at the time of the Revolution, they could not be brought into controversy. For no question can arise concerning boundaries until the recognition of independence; and this event, by deposing the king of Great Britain from the rank of lord

paramount and chief magistrate of America, destroys the only principles by which lands falling within the two preceding descriptions could return into his power. But the views, interests and conduct of his Britannick Majesty forbid us to expect that he will acknowledge the territory remaining ungranted at the era of independence to be, in like manner, the property of the United States, or of the particular state within the limits of which it is comprised.

It is therefore incumbent on us to show—

First, That the territorial rights of the thirteen United States, while in the character of British colonies, were the same with those defined in the instructions given to Mr. J. Adams on the day of August, 1779; and,

Secondly, That the United States, considered as independent sovereignties, have succeeded to those rights; or,

Thirdly, That if the vacant lands cannot be demanded upon the preceding grounds, that is, upon the titles of individual states, they are to be deemed to have been the property of his Britannick Majesty immediately before the Revolution, and to be now devolved upon the United States collectively taken.

First, So fair are our pretensions rendered by the united operation of the grants, charters, royal commissions and Indian cessions enumerated above, that we shall content ourselves with reviewing the objections which will most probably be urged against them, without entering into direct proofs of our titles.

First objection. Even upon the supposition that the charter of Massachusetts is valid, so as to cover the vacant lands, still it does not follow, that St. John's river is part of its eastern boundary. For that river is contended to be in Nova Scotia under the expression in the new charter of Massachusetts, in 1691, which conveys the country between the province of Maine and

Nova Scotia. The southwest boundary of Nova Scotia, therefore, will regulate this claim. But it is well known that in the altercation between France and Great Britain upon this very subject, in 1751, Acadia, or Nova Scotia, was asserted by the latter to be bounded by Pentagoet or Penobscot river.

Answer. It is to be observed, that when the boundaries of the United States were declared to be ultimata, it was not thought advisable to continue the war merely to obtain territory as far as St. John's river; but that the dividing line of Massachusetts and Nova Scotia was to be consigned to future settlement. It must be confessed also that this country, which is said in the new charter to border on Nova Scotia and the province of Maine, on opposite sides, and which goes under the name of Sagadahock, cannot be proved to extend to the river St. John, as clearly as to that of St. Croix. But there is some reason, notwithstanding, to believe that Nova Scotia was never supposed by the British King, in any grant to his subjects, to come to the south of St. John's river, although he might have exacted from France a relinquishment of the lands to the river Penobscot, or even Kennebeck, as a part of Nova Scotia.

The first notice taken of Nova Scotia by the king of Great Britain was in a grant which he made of that country to Sir William Alexander, on the 10th September, 1621. According to this grant, it was to begin at Cape Sable, to extend towards St. Mary's bay, to cross the great bay between the Etchemins and Sourigois to the mouth of the river St. Croix, to run up to the source of that river, and from thence by a strait line drawn northwardly to the great river of Canada.[t] On the 12th July, 1625, a patent issued to the same Sir William Alexander, confirming to him the same limits.[u]

These grants could not reach to the west of St. Croix, "because" (say the English commissaries in their memorial of the 11th January, 1751, s. 42,) "all the country to the westward of the river St. Croix had, in the year 1620, before the date of the first of them, been granted by King James to certain of his subjects, by the name of the council of Plymouth, of which grantees Sir William Alexander was one, and who, by virtue of an agreement among the said grantees, possessed the country lying between the river St. Croix and Pemaquid, a little to the westward of Pentagoet."[v]

Popple's map, which was undertaken, as the author relates, with the approbation of the lords commissioners of trade and plantations, makes St. Croix the western boundary of Nova Scotia.[w] Champlain expressly bounds Acadia by St. Croix to the westward.[w] We may add, as being farther corroborative of this western limit of Nova Scotia, that the English commissaries themselves, in their reply of the 4th October, 1751, commend the map in the fourth volume of Purchas's Pilgrim as the first ancient map of Nova Scotia and New England deserving notice; the latter of which they assert to be bounded northwardly, as is delineated in the map, by the river St. Croix.[x] The same commissaries afterwards remark, that it is clear from history that the country between the rivers Sagadahock and St. Croix had been settled many years earlier than the date of the new charter of Massachusetts; and that Great Britain considered it as part of her American colonies. It could not have been included within Nova Scotia, since it is expressly contradistinguished from it.[x] Sagadahock too is granted to the Duke of York under the description of "all that part of the main land of New England beginning at a certain place called or known by the name of St. Croix adjoining to New Scotland in America."

Should it be argued, that it was manifestly the opinion in England at the time of granting the new charter that the lands between the rivers Sagadahock and St. Croix were not included within the limits of Massachusetts, since grants of them were not valid until confirmed by the crown;—an answer arises from two considerations. First, this charter incorporates these lands into the province of Massachusetts in unequivocal terms; and, secondly, one at least of the counsellors directed to be chosen yearly for the province at large, was to be from the inhabitants or proprietors of lands within this territory.[y] The board of trade and plantations on the 29th April, 1700, declared in a solemn act, that "New England ought of right to extend to St. Croix."[z] See the act.

It does not appear then, that Nova Scotia hath ever been carried to the west of the River St. Croix in any British grant, or in any British document relative to New England. We own that in the memorials of the Court of Great Britain to the French Court, after the peace of Aix-la-Chapelle, relative to the boundaries of Nova Scotia, Penobscot river is sometimes asserted to be one of its boundaries, and Kennebeck, at others. But nothing is proved from thence, but a desire in the British king to procure an absolute release from France of all her pretensions, howsoever distant. For a general discussion on this subject, see the British and French memorials on the occasion, and to the treaties of St. Germain, on the 29th of March, 1632, of Westminster, 3d November, 1655, and of Breda, 31st July, 1667.

As to the territory of Sagadahock, which is synonymous with the lands between the province of Maine and Nova Scotia, conveyed by the new charter, we can only observe upon the expression already cited from the grant thereof to the Duke of York, that the "place

called St. Croix adjoining to New Scotland" must mean the territory which went by that name. Had the river only been designed, it alone would have been mentioned. It seems to have been the practice of those times to denominate a country from a river which bounded it. The river Sagadahock accordingly, at first, gave its own appellation to the whole country as far as the river St. Croix, and afterwards to the country from thence to the river St. John, which had before been called St. Croix. The *place*, therefore, called St. Croix, adjoining to New Scotland, was most likely intended to describe the lands between the rivers St. Croix and St. John. History does not inform us that any particular spot of them was known as St. Croix. But as the first course of the grant to the Duke of York plainly runs from Nova Scotia to Massachusetts along the seacoast, it is probable that it was to begin at the first point in the country of St. Croix on the coast. This must have been on St. John's river. And as the last line of the grant is not closed, it is more agreeable to the usage of those days to adopt a natural boundary. For this purpose, St. John's river was obvious as far as its head, and afterwards a line to the great river of Canada.[aa] See grant to the Duke of York for Sagadahock, 12th March, 1663–4.

We are obliged to urge probabilities, because in the early possession of a rough unreclaimed country accuracy of lines cannot be much attended to. But we wish that the northeastern boundary of Massachusetts may be left to future discussion, when we may be able to obtain other evidence which the war has removed from us.

Second objection. But let the new charter of Massachusetts comprehend, by its expressions, the country from the river St. Croix to that of St. John, and the

title papers of the other states cover by their terms ever so much land, they cannot be supposed, at this day, to justify ~~the demand of~~ such wide limits as are demanded in Mr. Adams's instructions of August, 1779.

For 1. The charters of Massachusetts, Connecticut, Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina and Georgia, never had any serious western limit, since the South Sea was thought to be nearer the Atlantick than it really is; and if its true position had been known, such a grant would have been too extravagant.

2. The charters of Virginia, North Carolina and South Carolina, were granted to proprietors, and that of Georgia to trustees, and were afterwards resumed into the king's hands. It is therefore incumbent on those states to show, either their right of succession to the proprietors and trustees, in opposition to the resumption of the crown, or an obligation on the crown to appropriate to them, when changed into royal governments, the same boundaries which they held when proprietary or fiduciary.

3. The treaties with the Five Nations under which New York claims, transferred to that colony no title to their lands.

4. The proclamation of 1763 abridged all the colonies which claimed beyond the sources of the rivers falling into the Atlantick to those sources.

5. By the treaty of Fort Stanwix, in 1768, the king of Great Britain bought from the Six Nations, in his own name, a great part of the country claimed by Virginia to the west of the Apalachian mountains; and by several other treaties with the Indian tribes, purchases have been made within its chartered limits, from which it may be inferred, that this colony was before destitute of right to the lands so purchased: And,

6. The statute of the British parliament, commonly called the Quebec act, in 1774, cuts off the extensive claims of the United States.

Answer to objection second, part first. It cannot be admitted that even a miscomputation of the distance between the Atlantick and Pacifick oceans, vitiates the charters which extend from the one to the other. In every contest among the European powers concerning the soil of America, the validity of charters hath been conceded.[bb] See treaties of Germain, Westminster, and Breda, and the memorials of the commissaries above referred to.

The king of Great Britain will not fail to acknowledge their sacredness when he calls to mind the doctrine of the British laws, by which the charters of corporations are protected. Of how much more importance is a charter granted to the suffering explorers of the American wilderness.

It is also remarkable, that during the rage for the sacrifice of American charters in the reign of Charles II. some of them were vacated by the judgment of a court, by which their former legal existence was recognised; and that the arbitrary administration of a Stuart himself would not attempt to destroy a charter without the formality of legal process. An American charter then, being thus respectable in its nature, equity will not suffer it to be annulled on account of a misconception of its contents, when the grantees could not possibly have contributed to the mistake by fraudulently withholding information upon the subject, and when the king hath never pretended that he was deceived, or erred. But had the interval between these seas been precisely ascertained, it is not probable that the king of England would have divided the chartered boundaries now in question into more governments. For perhaps

his principal object at that time was to acquire by that form of occupancy which originated in this western world, to wit, by charters, a title to the lands comprehended therein against foreign powers. The seacoast too was not in his opinion more than sufficient for the territory of a single colony, as is manifested in the charter to Virginia, in 1609; and the interiour parts, overspread as they were by savages, and distant as they must be from that relief from Europe, without which the new settlements would certainly have perished, would have been a pitiful instance of royal bounty, and no temptation to emigrants; nor is this merely conjectural. Let the charters which run to the South Sea be reviewed in chronological order. By this it will be found, that these extensive limits did not creep in through inadvertence, as they were repeated long after the errour had been removed as to the distance of that sea.

On the 23d of May, 1609, James I. granted the charter under which Virginia claims.

On the 3d of November, 1620, the charter to the council at Plymouth was granted.

On the 4th of March, 1628–9, the charter of the old colony of Massachusetts was dated.

On the 20th of March, 1662, the first charter of Carolina was granted.

On the 20th of April, 1662, Connecticut received its charter.

On the 30th of June, 1664, the second charter of Carolina was granted.

On the 7th of October, 1691, the new charter of Massachusetts, which among other things re-established the old colony, was granted.

In 1732, Georgia was erected into a seperate government.

If it be necessary to seek other illustrations, an appeal may be made to the act of the British parliament in 1729, (2 G. 2. ch. 34.) which has been already noted, and recites the charter of Carolina as extending to the South Sea. Nay, as late as the year 1740, five commissioners were appointed on the part of the king, and five on that of Lord Carteret, to assign to his lordship his one-eighth of Carolina, which he had refused to surrender; and the South Sea was fixed as the western limit of the territory allotted to him.[cc] We cannot forbear to add a general concession from the crown in the several charters, that when doubts should arise, the construction should be strict against himself, and liberal in behalf of the grantees.

Answer to second part of second objection. The facts related in this branch of the second objection are true; but we shall not attempt to prove that the colonies of Virginia, North Carolina and South Carolina, were lawful successors to the rights of the proprietors. We assume that the lands described by the charters of those colonies were, from their necessary operation, subjected to the jurisdiction of the governments of those colonies respectively; and therefore, that they would have constantly remained so subject during the existence of the proprietary administration, even if the proprietors had had a right to throw them off from that jurisdiction, unless some act of dismemberment had been done. But we protest against such a right of dismemberment being lodged in the proprietors, except with the assent of the people.

The charters of the abovementioned colonies were contracts, to which the king, the proprietors and the emigrants [for themselves] and their posterity were parties. The consideration paid by the king for the product of mines and of future commerce, was the protection of the

proprietors and emigrants. The proprietors disbursed money for the expences of the first settlement, and were the owners of the soil, and the managers of the government. The emigrants were the actual improvers of the country, promising to themselves and their descendants the superintending care of their sovereign, a mild government by the proprietors, and a continuance of the boundaries defined in their charters. We say a continuance of the boundaries: For there were good grounds why the first planters should be opposed to an alteration of boundaries at the will of the proprietors.

1. A power to restrain the proprietors from seperating them into different bodies, and obliging them to defray the charges of government in many feeble hamlets, was essential to their welfare, if not to their safety, and was therefore very probably in their contemplation.

2. The southern district of British America was believed to be fertile in the precious metals. The greater therefore the extent of territory was which lay within a government there, the happier was the prospect of obtaining wealth.

3. Had the proprietors been at liberty to disperse the inhabitants into distinct societies by cantoning the chartered limits into any number of new colonies, the opportunity for oppression would have been ruinous. They might have exacted some hard service, and threatened their tenants with a division of their country on failure of compliance; by which means they would have been exposed to the severe alternative of acquiescing in the tyranny or undergoing the ravages of Indian warfare from the difficulties inevitably attendant upon concentrating the force of various communities.

4. The emigrants hoped that themselves and their posterity would find a facility of living unknown in Europe, and freedom in religion. How obviously might

the former, connected as it is with agriculture and manufactures, and the latter, dependent as it also sometimes is upon the association of persons of a similar persuasion, have been prevented by an arbitrary and malicious contraction of limits.

5. These ideas are supported by the charters themselves. The proprietors and settlers of South Virginia had received a charter on the 10th April, 1606, of which, and the liberties and privileges contained therein, that of 23d of May, 1609, is declared to be an enlargement and explanation, and is an express confirmation. S. 27. [dd] These two charters then forming one system in the same manner with two laws, one of which enlarges and explains the other, it is correct to argue from both.

The first charter recites, that Sir Thomas Gates and his fellow adventurers were desirous of dividing themselves into two several colonies and companies. § 2. In section 3, the king commends the undertaking; in section 4, gives one hundred miles square to the first colony; and the like quantity in section 5, to the second. This cannot be said to favour any subdivisions of chartered territory. Sections 4 and 5. Every other subject was prohibited from planting, or inhabiting behind either of the two colonies. This prohibition was plainly dictated by the danger apprehended from the establishment of distinct governments. In no part of this charter is provision made for the government of more than two colonies. It was impossible then for the proprietors to institute different governments. A new and seperate colony erected by their authority could not have a seal, establish a coin, and convey the franchises of British natives to persons born therein of British subjects, nor designate grantees of land. In short, the charter of 1606 does constantly discountenance divisions

of the territory for the purpose of additional provinces.

6. The transition is now easy to the charter of 1609. [Section 2] It was granted not to the adventurers, that is, the proprietors only, but to the planters also; not from undue partiality, but from "respect to their great charges, and the hazard of their lives in the discovery and plantation of the country." Here is a valuable consideration paid by the planters, equal in dignity to the merit of the proprietors, and entitling them to demand that the territory be not impaired. Like observations to those on the charter of 1606 may be used on this occasion. Had the proprietors carved out a new government, it could have acquired its rights, as such, only from a fresh grant from the crown, or the charter of 1609. If the crown must have been resorted to, the charter could not have authorised the measure. But the truth is, that the charter enabled the treasurer and company of adventurers and planters of the city of London for the first colony in Virginia only, [S. 5] to plead and be impleaded; [S. 6] to hold lands within the limits of the charter; [S. 7] to distribute lands under a common seal; [S. 8] to have a council resident in England; [S. 17] to search for mines; to [S. 18] encourage emigration from British dominions; [S. 19] to be free from certain subsidies for twenty years; [S. 21] to seize vessels trafficking without license within the precincts of the charter; [S. 23 and 24] and to dispense criminal and martial justice: nor are the liberties of natural subjects granted to any person born within the limits of the charter, but as those limits constitute the first colony of Virginia.

7. In a third charter passed to the treasurer and company of Virginia, on the 12th March, 1611–12,[ee] the same unity is preserved to the first colony throughout, and a seperation is not alluded to in the most distant

way. But it is an argument of real force with respect to Virginia, that the charters of 1609 and 1611–12 were granted to the treasurer and company as a corporation, and that it is a firm principle of British law, that a corporation cannot exclude from their jurisdiction lands placed within it by the terms of its constitution.

8. Analogous to the charters of Virginia are those of the two Carolinas, or more properly of Carolina, respecting the indivisibility of their limits. The territory described therein, and the province of Carolina, are synonymous in many instances.

In the last clause but two in the second charter, the royal word is pledged to the proprietors, "their heirs and assigns, and to the tenants and inhabitants of the said province or territory, both present and to come, and to every of them, that the said province or territory and the tenants and inhabitants thereof, shall not from henceforth be held or reputed any member or part of any colony whatsoever in America, or elsewhere, now transported or made, or hereafter to be transported or made; nor shall be depending on or subject to their government in any thing, but be absolutely seperated and divided from the same." Nay, so little was the power of altering the limits conceived to be inherent in the proprietors, that the authority to divide the territory into counties was delegated to them in positive terms.

It must however be confessed, that before the surrender of the charter, in 1729, North and South Carolina had each a governour, council and assembly. But this seperation of jurisdictions was not the creature of the proprietors alone, but was effected with the approbation of the inhabitants, some of whom laboured under great inconvenience from having the metropolis and the settled country around it distant from them three hun-

dred miles and upwards.[ff] See Lawson's history of Carolina, p. 256.

The example of New Jersey cannot be cited against the right of the people to demand from the proprietors an entirety of territory. For the very grant upon which they rest expressly warrants an equal division between Lord Berkeley and Sir George Carteret. See the Duke of York's grant [to New Jersey]. The argument from hence would rather be, that when the power of division was intended it was specially mentioned.

It would be tedious to detail, in this place, the many passages in the charters to Lord Baltimore and Mr. Penn, which maintain the principle, that the first limits ought to be permanent. So opposite to private emolument was the office of the trustees of Georgia, that they enjoyed no right which was not for the benefit of the people. The limits granted to the trustees were in fact granted to them. [But we are unable at present to be more particular, not having access to the grant itself.]

What change, then, was wrought by the conversion of the proprietary governments of Virginia, North Carolina and South Carolina, and the fiduciary one of Georgia, into royal?

Virginia. It is needless to inquire whether the charter of 1609 was abolished lawfully or not. Because, as its abolition was the act of the king, he cannot contend that it was produced by violence or injustice; and the company and their successors have yielded to the resumption from 1624 to this day, without bringing it to a forensick discussion, or endeavouring to reverse it by a petition to the crown. Either of these remedies was easy, and constitutional. But a superiour reason is, that a dispute between the king and company, two of the three parties to the charter, ought not to prejudice the people of Virginia, who were the third.

who stipulated with the proprietors for the territorial privileges in the charter with the privity, assent nay guarantee of the king, who could not profit from a rupture between him and the proprietors, and ought not therefore to be injured.

But what if the king had not been an immediate party? Surely his succession to the rights of the company brought with it a succession to their engagements respecting territory; unless James I. as king of England, was authorised to violate, in spoliation of his own subjects, that rule of natural law under the influence of which his Prussian Majesty bound himself, upon obtaining Silesia, to be answerable to the British king for the encumbrances imposed on that country by the Empress of Hungary in his favour.

It is a warrantable corollary from the inability of the proprietors to mutilate the limits in the charter of 1609, that the king standing in their place was alike incapable. This reasoning is not impeached by the divisions which the chartered limits of Virginia have undergone. They were made at periods when the people could not feel an interest in opposing them; when extreme loyalty was the highest virtue; when they were weak. The quotation of their submission in this instance, as an evidence of their consciousness of the king's right, would be somewhat unnatural; since it would suppose, that other men in the same circumstances would probably have acted otherwise.

The objections springing from the proclamation and Quebec statute will be discussed hereafter.

That the king of England thought himself bound to consider the colony of Virginia as possessing the limits of the charter of 1609, except in those cases in which it had been abridged before 1669, appears from the charter of 10th October, 1676. There the colony of

Virginia is mentioned in general terms without definite limits. To confine it to the country then settled, would be inconsistent with its professed design of encouraging the plantation, and would exclude nine tenths of the present inhabitants. Not to confine it thereto, would demonstrate that Virginia was believed by Charles II. to comprehend some vacant land, and consequently that she must hold all the vacant land within the charter of 1609; since a single foot could not be demanded through any other channel. Long ago would the people themselves have required some determinate limits, had they not imagined that the charter of 1609 described them. So far too has the king of England been from marking out the boundaries of Virginia in the charter of 1676, or in any instructions to his governours, that he has by various acts corroborated our principle, that after the extinction of the charter they remained the same as before. For near thirty years has the governour of Virginia, acting under his authority and with his knowledge, granted lands on the west side of the Alleghany mountains. In 1748–9 Sir William Gooch, governour of Virginia, was instructed to grant to the Ohio company lands far westward of the Alleghany mountains, but still as the instruction and the letter enclosing it says, "On the Ohio within his Majesty's colony of Virginia."[gg] In 1753, an act was passed by the assembly of Virginia for the encouragement of settlers on the waters of the Mississippi. To this act the royal assent was given.[hh] In 1754, an act was passed by the same legislature for a similar purpose, in which Virginia is declared to possess lands on and near the waters of Mississippi. A very large sum of money has been levied upon the people of Virginia for the defence of that country. All this has been done with the knowledge and consent of the British king.[ii] In the year

the governour and council of Virginia granted a tract of land at the confluence of the Ohio and Mississippi bounding upon both rivers. [kk] In 1754, Mr. Dinwiddie, governour of Virginia, promised, by his proclamation, a bounty of 200,000 acres of land on the western waters to the officers of the first Virginia regiment.[ll] The many land warrants issued by Lord Dunmore, governour of Virginia, were directed to be located on the lands lying on the western waters. In 1773, courts were holden beyond the Alleghany mountains under the authority and particular direction of the governour of Virginia.

Great sums have been expended by Virginia in defence of the Western Country.[mm]

The present situation of the two Carolinas and Georgia deprives us of the information concerning them, with which we are anxious to furnish you in detail.

The general observations applied to Virginia are applicable to the two Carolinas.

We shall endeavor to transmit to you such documents as may manifest the opinion of the British King to be that the chartered limits remained entire after the surrender. We assure ourselves that such will be found, especially as he has often interfered in the accommodation of their disputes about boundaries, and his ancestor George the 2nd directed a temporary line between North and South Carolina upon the principles of the Charter.

Of Georgia it may be said, that the proclamation of 1763 revived its chartered limits by annexing the lands between the Alatamaha and St. Mary's river to that province; for at the date of that edict a considerable part of the lands northward of Alatamaha was vacant; and to suppose that by Georgia was meant that territory alone which had been granted to individuals, would annex the country south of Alatamaha, and shut out the vacant part lying on the north side of that river.

But as no reasonable solution could be given of so whimsical an arrangement of territory, we may conclude, that the vacant land on the north of Alatamaha was comprised in the term of "Georgia." If so, since Georgia could claim vacant land only by virtue of the deed to the trustees, and that deed must have conveyed full limits, or nothing, it follows, that its territorial rights were restored, if they were affected by the surrender. But it has been already seen in what predicament the trustees stood. They were, what their title imports, mere trustees for the benefit of the province. Strangely then would it sound, that upon the refusal of those benevolent men, who had no personal interest in the trust, to persevere in fostering this infant nation, it must lose every thing, or in other words, hang on the pleasure of the king for a restitution of former rights.

Answer to third part of second objection. New York derives its claim from the Five Nations, insisting, 1st. That the king of England was lord of their soil; 2d. That being so, he transferred his seignory to that then province.

1. The Five Nations (Iroquois, or Six Nations) had from ancient days put themselves and their lands under the protection of Great Britain.[nn] The Duke de Mirepoix, in his memorial of the 14th May, 1755, to the ministry of London, denies that the lands of the Five Nations became vested in his Britannick Majesty by the deeds; but the answer returned by that ministry on the 7th June, in the same year, contends, that the 15th article in the treaty of Utrecht subjects the Five Nations to the dominion of Great Britain. That such subjection according to the genuine interpretation of treaties, relates to the country as well as to the person; and that France is precluded from altercating these points with Great Britain, because she has once acknowledged their

propriety. It will not therefore be insisted, that the territory of the Five Nations belongs to the ancient and just limits of Canada, as the foregoing assertions were urged to confront a pretension of France to this effect; nor will it be denied, that the king of Great Britain was, with respect to his subjects at least, lord of the soil of the Iroquois, by being their protector.

New York maintains, in the second place, that its legislative and executive proceedings from
to prove that this very Iroquois territory has been supported by its blood and treasure; that this circumstance does of itself create an equitable title, which has ripened into an indefeasible one, by Great Britain having always treated the country of the Iroquois and their tributaries up to the forty-fifth degree of northern latitude as transferred from itself to the government of New York.[oo] See documents to be furnished by the delegates of New York.

Answer to fourth part of second objection. The prohibition announced to the governours of all the colonies, except those of Quebec, East Florida and West Florida, to grant warrants of survey, or pass patents "for the present and until his (the British king's) farther pleasure should be known," for any lands beyond the heads or sources of the rivers which fall into the Atlantick ocean from the west and northwest, strongly intimates an opinion, that there were lands beyond the heads of those rivers within the jurisdiction of those governours. Otherwise the prohibition would have been unnecessary. Again, by the injunction "not to grant warrants of survey, or to pass patents for any lands whatever which, not having been ceded to or purchased by the British king, were reserved to the Indians, or any of them," a restriction of terri-

tory could not have been designed by a king, who granted charters to his colonies, knowing that they would interfere with the rights of the Indians, who has always considered a cession or purchase from them as a milder mean of anticipating their hostility rather than a source of title, who since the date of the proclamation has granted, through the prohibited governours themselves, large quantities of lands beyond the heads of those rivers, and whose own geographer, Emanl. Bowen, in a map delineating "the British, Spanish and French dominions in America, according to the treaty of Paris" and this very proclamation, has carried Georgia, South Carolina, North Carolina and Virginia as far as the Mississippi.[pp] The single object of these parts of the proclamation was to suspend the business of the land offices, not to curtail limits; to keep the Indians in peace, not to annihilate the territorial rights of the colonies.

But it may be charged as an inconsistency to set up the proclamation as increasing the limits of Georgia, when it thereby plainly mutilates South Carolina. The fact is, that before and after the cession of Florida, South Carolina asserted a right to the lands between the rivers Alatamaha and St. Mary's. Georgia contradicted. The dispute was ended by this proclamation of the crown, and the title of Georgia is certainly confirmed. Could South Carolina do more than represent her grievance? Having done this, did she confess the authority of Great Britain to dismember her at will, because she did not fly to arms? Another reason might [perhaps] have induced South Carolina to relinquish its opposition with less reluctance. Peace and its incidents being the province of the chief magistrate of the British empire, and the lands between Alatamaha and St. Mary's having been rendered neutral by an agreement with Spain, they were seperated from South Carolina.

Now it might have been the opinion of some, that this circumstance weakened the original title.[qq] See treaty of Aix-la-Chapelle. Upon the prerogative of the crown to manage the affairs of peace, and the rights of France, depends the justice of limiting the American colonies to the Mississippi, by the treaty of Paris.

Answer to the fifth part of the second objection. Nor can the treaty of Fort Stanwix, in 1768, militate against Virginia. For the purchase then ratified did not imply a want of right in the king, but was solely, as was observed of the proclamation, an instrument of peace. Nor yet did he render the ceded lands exclusively his own; because the relation between him and the American royal colonies required his name in all conventions with the Indians concerning territory, even when the benefit redounded to them alone; because the franchise of pre-emption had been often asserted by some of them, and particularly by New Jersey in 172—, by an act of the legislature approved by the royal governour; and because, in the exercise of that franchise, the wealth of the colony, within which the purchased lands lay, was commonly expended.[rr] It is true that Virginia, in 1769, asked permission to purchase a more extensive boundary; but the causes were, that the superintendant of Indian affairs, who had the absolute guidance of the Indian councils, could be conciliated only through the medium of the crown; and the British governour would have withholden his assent to any vote, levying money for the purpose of such a purchase, without the approbation of his master.

Answer to the sixth part of the second objection. The Quebec act was one of the multiplied causes of our opposition, and finally of the Revolution. Even if it had been designed to abridge the boundaries of the colonies, the right of the British parliament to do so

must be denied upon the grounds already shown. But the provision, that nothing therein contained relative to the province of Quebec should in any wise affect the boundaries of any other colony, destroys its operation with regard to those which are now required by us. [For this also we refer you to what has gone before.] Thus have we laid open the grounds of our claims to the boundaries specified in the instructions to Mr. J. Adams.

We undertook to prove in the first place, that they belonged to the thirteen Colonies. In doing this we avoided a regular and punctilious deduction of our rights because our pretensions appeared sufficiently fair, unless some defect could be discovered in them. The objections which stood foremost as being the most plausible were 1. against the North Eastern Boundary of Massachusetts, and 2ndly against the claim of the United States being so extensive as the strict construction of their title papers would justify; because 1. the charters running to the South Sea were granted through mistake, and at any rate were chimerical. 2. The charters of four of the Colonies had been surrendered. 3. New York cannot maintain her right under the six nations. 4. The Proclamation abridged our limits. 5. The Treaty of Fort Stanwix militates against them, and, 6, the Quebec act contracted them. To these objections and their different branches answers have been given. We now proceed to the second point.

The second point, to wit, that the United States have succeeded as independent sovereignties to the territorial rights of the colonies.

The states claiming vacant lands before the Revolution were, 1. Connecticut, a government belonging to the governour and company; 2. Pensylvania, a government belonging to a few individuals; 3. Massachusetts, possessing an express charter as a royal government; and 4. Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina and Georgia, which were originally proprietary governments, and afterwards became royal, but received no special charter as such.

1. Charles II. relinquishes, in his charter to Connecticut, all title to the lands therein described. Grants did not issue in his name, nor did escheats fall to him as lord paramount. The extinction therefore of British jurisdiction in Connecticut cannot vest in the king of England a territorial right which he never enjoyed before, but must strip him of every possible authority in that State.

2. We affirm, without repeating the proofs, that the State of Pensylvania retains its provincial limits. At the Revolution one fourth of the ungranted soil was the property of Mr. J. Penn, and three fourths of W. Penn. Since that era the whole has been seized into the hands of the State. Mr. J. Penn, being a citizen of Pensylvania, the king of Great Britain would grossly intrude on the sovereignty of the State, were he to interest himself in the restitution of his share. Prudential and equitable considerations ought always to curb licentious invasions of private right; but in the breast of the legislature resides the application of the property within its jurisdiction. An injured citizen must acquiesce in the dispensations of the sovereign authority, or seek redress from remonstrances, or the last expedient of oppressed freemen. Mr. W. Penn was a British subject at the Revolution, has continued to be so to this day, and is therefore an alien. His prince may advocate his interest without an infringement of decorum, and will probably be strenuous in his behalf. He will plead that alienage produced by the severance of an empire differs from birth under a foreign allegiance. It will not be denied, that at the time of acquiring his landed rights he was not an alien. But the Revolution has placed him in an opposite predicament. As he was then a friend, so he is now an enemy; and upon the restoration of peace, no other relation will subsist between the State of

Pensylvania and him, than what might have subsisted between that State and a subject of Russia. Since therefore he must share at the end of the war the disability to which aliens are liable upon principles of general as well as English law, as to the holding of immoveable property; since during the war it would be dangerous to tolerate remittances of its profit, specifick restitution is untenable upon any ground. Nor can compensation be solicited, although it should be absurdly thought that Pensylvania is indebted to Great Britain for favours. Has not England set us an example in this business? While she possessed territory on the coast of France, within which it was lawfu for French subjects to acquire and hold lands upon the same terms with the English, was it not her habit to wrest them from the former immediately upon a declaration of war against their prince? Did she make compensations? It is remarkable too that the concessions of Mr. Penn, the original grantee to the province, allot to settlers nine tenths of the lands within the limits of the charter. Soon should we behold a new British colony composed of the choicest tools of tyranny emerge in the very bosom of Pensylvania, were Mr. W. Penn permitted to grant the vacant country. And shall we reward him because we unnerve his faculty of doing harm?

3. At this stage of our inquiry we take for granted, that the king of Great Britain could not rightfully alter the limits assigned to Massachusetts in its new charter. Perhaps, however, it may be questioned whether Massachusetts can with propriety bottom its claims as an independent sovereignty upon a charter granted to it as a dependent colony. The charter appropriated to Massachusetts, as a society, certain limits. Let the

supreme power be modified as it may, as the society remains the same, so do its rights. The argument of the objection extended one step farther implies, that the royal patents for land granted to individuals can convey no title at this day. What is the effect of this doctrine, but that a people must groan under every tyranny, or lose every privilege. [But let us quit the cavil.] All the lands in this colony were holden of the king in free and common soccage, the well known tenure in Great Britain; and grants to individuals ran in his name. In other words, he was lord paramount. In tracing the consequences of this paramountship, analogy will justify us in pursuing as the prototype the paramountship of Great Britain. The king is lord paramount there, merely because he is king. For even the ancient barons, with their numerous vassals and formidable force, never affected this character. Accordingly, if at any time during or since the vigour of the feudal system, the immediate tenant of a baron had aliened lands to an alien, they were forfeitable to the king. The same was and is the doctrine where he committed treason. These forfeitures could not be founded on a defect of heritable blood; because it would commence in the life of the alien or traitor, and because such a defect would restore the lands to the immediate lord of whom they were holden. But the forfeiture hath always devolved on the king, whose office it was as chief magistrate to guard against the residence of persons disaffected, as aliens generally are, and as traitors ever are, to the publick good. That the qualities of king and lord paramount are inseperable, appears from these facts: 1st. A king of Great Britain upon his accession to the throne receives no special investiture of power as lord paramount, but exercises it as a derivative from that of chief magistrate. 2d. The coronation

oath relates to the functions of the lord paramount; but the sanction from religion for the due discharge of them is comprehended in that for the faithful administration of the government. 3d. Upon the abdication of James second, the throne was declared vacant; and neither his successor nor the people imagined it to be necessary to tear the paramountship from him by express words. Hence it follows, that he who ceases to be king, ceases to be lord paramount. Again, in dealing out the lands of the kingdom, the British nation have conducted themselves with respect to the king, as a bare trustee for publick benefit. When William, the third, was squandering upon his minion the Duke of Portland profuse grants of land, the parliament interposed, and put a stop to them. Hence it also follows, that if George, the third, should become incapable of being their trustee, he would be also disqualified as lord paramount. If analogy be a faithful guide on this occasion, the inference is clear, that as George, the third, was obeyed in Massachusetts as king of Massachusetts, not as king of Great Britain, and has ceased to be its chief magistrate, and in the nature of the thing cannot be its trustee, he is also extinct as lord paramount. For the justness of the analogy we appeal to that clause in the new charter of Massachusetts which grants to its colonists the immunities of British subjects. We defy those who shall undertake to show that the charter placed the rights of British American subjects with regard to the paramountship, upon a different footing from those of their fellow subjects of Great Britain; and we venture to pronounce the parallelism of the cases from the identity of the tenure. We may here add another inference, that as the paramountship was an indissoluble concomitant of the chief magistracy, and the State of Massachusetts succeeds to those powers which the British king for-

merly exercised as king of that then colony, that State does also succeed to the paramountship.

4. This last division of the second point requires for its proof nothing more than a recapitulation of what has been already shown, to wit, that the proprietors could not seperate the colonies of Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina and Georgia; that the king upon the resumption of their charters succeeded to the obligations of the proprietors, not only from the nature of the contract with the people, but from his own acts and those of his governours; that these colonies became thereby royal governments standing in the same rank with Massachusetts; that consequently the king of Great Britain was lord paramount of these colonies by being the chief magistrate of each of them; and that this chief magistracy, having fallen to them, carries with it the paramountship. Upon the whole, a decisive objection exists against the mutilation of the charters running to the Mississippi according to the treaty of Paris, namely, that the principle by which they would be limited to the distance of a mile only from the river, would justify mutilations to any extent.

The third point. But if the vacant lands cannot be demanded upon the titles of individual states, they are to be deemed to have been the property of his Britannick Majesty, as sovereign of the thirteen colonies immediately before the Revolution, and to be devolved upon the United States collectively taken. In agitating the case of these lands under this head, his Britannick Majesty will be very forward in asserting that he was seized of them; so that proof will be superfluous. The character in which he was so seized was that of king of the thirteen colonies collectively taken. Being stript of this character, its rights descended to the United States for the following reasons: 1. The United States

are to be considered in many respects as one undivided independent nation, inheriting those rights which the king of Great Britain enjoyed as not appertaining to any one particular state, while he was what they are now, the superintending governour of the whole. 2. The king of Great Britain has been dethroned as king of the United States, by the joint efforts of the whole. 3. The very country in question hath been conquered through the means of the common labours of the United States.

What has heretofore been observed regards only the title of the United States. There are other considerations deserving attention. Should Great Britain retain that portion of the United States which borders on the Mississippi, the neighbourhood of her possessions will be imminently dangerous to our peace. Should she at the same time retain Canada and West Florida, or even Canada alone, by applying herself to the settlement of that country and pushing on her trade there with vigour a new nursery for her marine will speedily be established.

From a full confidence that the western territory now contended for lay within the United States, the British posts therein have been reduced by our citizens, and American government is now exercised within the same; large bounties of land have been promised to the army; and we have relied on it as an important fund for discharging the debts incurred during the war. For a considerable distance beyond the Apalachian mountains, and particularly on the Ohio, American citizens are actually settled at this day. By the surrender therefore of the western territory to Great Britain, a large number of fencible men, men too who have not been behind any of their fellow citizens in the struggle for liberty, would be thrown back within her power.

France [ss] A memorial from Mr Gerard to Congress on the 22nd of May 1779 excites in us some degree of uneasiness. At the beginning he uses these expressions, "Il est notoire que l'objet direct et essential de l'alliance, subsistante entre sa magesté tres chretienne, et les Etats Unis, est de maintenir efficacement la liberté, la souveraineté et l'independence absolue et illimitée des dits Etats tant en matière de gouvernement, que de commerce et par consequent les droits territoriaux inherens a la souveraineté."

He goes on to enumerate several inferences from the positions contained in the memorial among which is the following, "En reunissant les enonciations des Articles 11e et 12e, on voit que les succes de la guerre pouvant seuls fixer le sort des empires, il a été trouvé impossible lors de la confaction du traité de l'alliance de determiner les possessions, que les Etats Unis pourroient obtenir a la paix, qu'en consequence la garantie de la France n'a pu etre que conditionelle et eventuelle a cet egard: qu'elle n'est tenue *maintenant* a aucune garantie particulière relativement a ces memes possessions, soit reelles soit pretendues; et que cette obligation ne commencera qu'a l'epoque a laquelle les possessions des Etats Unis auront été constatées par la cessation de la guerre."

The 11th and 12th Articles are in the following words [insert them verbatim].

A rupture then having taken place between France and England, the reciprocal Guarantee declared in the 11th Article has for a long time been in full force and effect. For although this article fixes the guarantee of the whole as the possession shall be assured to the United States at the moment of the cessation of their present war with Great Britain; yet the 12th specifies two æras at either of which the guarantee should commence, a rupture between France and Great Britain, or the termination of the war without such a rupture.

The word "*possessions*" will certainly comprehend the lands actually occupied by Individuals. For the Independence of the United States involves of necessity a territorial idea, since to guarantee the Independence of a number of men would, if they were to be expelled from their Country, have been too futile to enter into the wish of the United States, or the meaning of France. "*Possessions*" must also imply lands not in immediate occupation but granted merely to individuals. The term bears this signification in Europe, and in an infant country, like America, in which improvement cannot be coextensive with grants; but on the contrary, in which grants are made of large tracts of waste land, as an incentive to improvement,

it must particularly have this signification. The term also describes the vacant lands, which were ungranted at the Revolution. For although they were not possessed by individuals yet they were possessed by the society. In the 6th Article the Most Christian King renounces forever the *possession* of the Islands of Bermudas. In this place "*possession*" is extended to a bare right, as it cannot import actual occupancy.

How strange would it seem, had we been solicitous about Bermudas, and regardless of a territory which we always claimed, which is incorporated with our Country, and on which we counted as a source of revenue!

Had not war been waged by France with Great Britain, there was good reason why the former should not guarantee to the United States any other territory than what might be secured to them at the cessation of hostilities. The single arm of America unassisted by France might not be sufficient for the vindication of all her territorial rights. But upon a positive guarantee France would have been obliged to preserve the whole of them even by a declaration of war; a circumstance which she plainly studied to avoid, by her stipulating no aid in favor of the United States, but on the event of a war between herself and Great Britain. In actual war France could answer for the event.

Spain We cannot pursuade ourselves that any opposition will be made to the claims of the United States on the part of Spain. We do not deny that she has subdued some small posts within these vacant lands; but when it is remembered, that the United States have unfolded a title, which is substantial against the King of Great Britain, that the conquests of Spain are small in themselves and diminutive indeed when compared with those of the United States, her pretensions will vanish.

There are other objects that will undoubtedly occur in the course of negotiation.

The confiscation of the property of those who preferred an adherence to the old empire rather than to follow the fortunes of the new, was founded on those principles which have been discussed. The confiscation of the property of those who have committed treason against the United States, and are since become British subjects, has a foundation in the institutes of

forfeiture in the British criminal code. Should restitution be urged in either of these cases, in defiance of the support which the measures of America derive from similar practices in England, it will be proper to represent the impossibility of making specifick restitution of the personal property; the various transfers which the real has undergone from individual to individual, the great value of which the citizens of these states have, contrary to the laws of war, been despoiled by the enemy; the still greater losses which they have sustained from their wanton havock; the burdens which the war will leave behind it; and the share which the claimants have borne in this spoliation and havock, and by the former of which they have enriched themselves far beyond their losses.

Of absentees from their country there are three classes. 1. Those who left it before the Declaration of Independence. 2. Those who left it after having become citizens. And 3. Those who were expelled.—It must be readily seen how dishonourable and troublesome a stipulation for their return would be to the governments which they have deserted; how obnoxious the persons answering to this description would be to the people at large, and especially such as have suffered from their outrages; and how much the more this stipulation is to be dreaded, as none but those who are totally devoid of both honour and sensibility would avail themselves of a privilege, which would expose them to the indignation and resentments which they had provoked. Nor is it unworthy the circumspection of his Most Christian Majesty to reflect, whether the restoration of those persons may not produce an unequal competition with his subjects in trade; many among them, besides the advantage which they possess from the knowledge of our language, having accurately informed themselves of the nature of our commerce from actual experience.

~~It is not improbable that the subject of commerce will, among others, be introduced into the negotiation. The United States being, as a free and sovereign nation, the absolute masters as well of their commerce, as of their government, no claim of right can, or probably will be pretended with respect to the former by those, who relinquish such pretension with respect to the latter; but it is the wish and policy of the United States to preserve their commerce unfettered by stipulations in favor of nations, with which they are now unconnected, and particularly of that with which they are now at war. This policy cannot but coincide with the sentiments of his Most Christian Majesty, since by these means alone will be left to his allies the future opportunity of manifesting their preference of his interests to those of his enemies and rivals. Congress do for these reasons earnestly desire and expect that his Majesty will spare no efforts which may be necessary to exclude from a Treaty of peace every article which would restrain the United States from imposing on the Trade of Great Britain any duties, restrictions or prohibitions which may hereafter be judged expedient, unless it be so far only as a relaxation in this point may be essentially necessary for obtaining peace, or the several objects above mentioned.~~

~~In this review of our former instructions we have drawn arguments from different sources, trusting to your discretion and judgment for the selection of such as are apt and seasonable, and for the addition of any others of importance.~~

~~Done &c.~~

~~*Resolved*, That nothing in the preceding instructions contained be construed to affect any dispute which now does, or hereafter may subsist between individual States or between the United States and an individual State concerning territory.~~[1]

[1] This report, in the writing of Edmund Randolph, is in the *Papers of the Continental Congress*, No. 20, 1, folio 91–139. The words in brackets are in the report but not in the Journal. The following paper accompanied the report:

References to papers proper to explain the report most of which ought to be transmitted to our ministers.

a. Anderson's history of commerce 2 vol. 17 appendix.
b. Spotiswood's history of Scotland 483 and 2 Ander: app. 17.
c. Treaty of Paris 1763.
d. Treaties here enumerated in the Report.
e. Rymer's fœdera 16th Tom: p. 425.
f. Treaty of Utrecht 1713.
g. Grant to the Council of Plymouth 18 Nov. 1620.
h. Commission to B. Wentworth Esq. governor of New Hampshire 13th July, 15 Geo. 2.

The report being under debate for referring the foregoing facts and observations to the secretary for foreign

Footnote—Continued.

i. Charter to Massachusetts 7 October, 1691, and the old charter of the 4th of March, 1628, 9.

j. Charter to Connecticut April 23, 1662.

k. Charter to Rhode Island 8 July 1662.

l. Grant to the Duke of York 1663–4; capitulation of Dutch in the same year; Treaty of Westminster 1674; confirmation of the Duke's grant in the same year; treaties with the five nations in 1684, 1701, 1716, 1744, 1754 and the state of claims made by New York in print.

m. Grant to New Jersey 23 June 1664, and the act of surrender 14th August 1703.

n. Charter to William Penn 4th March 1681.

o. Grants to William Penn by the Duke of York 24 Aug. 1683.

p. Grant to Lord Baltimore by Charles the first 20 June 1632.

q. Charter to the Treasurer and company of Virginia 23 May 1609 and another Charter to the Colony 10 Oct. 1676.

r. Charters to Clarendon et al. 1662 and 1664. Statute 2. Geo. 2 c. 34. The act of division. This cannot be found.

s. Grant to Georgia in 1732 and the proclamation of 1763.

t. Grant of Nova Scotia to Sir William Alexander 10 Sept. 1621.

u. Second grant to Alexander 12 July 1625.

v. Memorial of the English to the French Commissioners 11 January 1751 concerning Nova Scotia.

w. Popple's map. Champlain's.

x. English Commissaries' reply 4th Oct. 1751.

y. Ibidem.

z. Act of the Board of trade and plantations 29th April 1700.

aa. Grant to Duke of York for Sagadadock 12 March 1663–4.

bb. Treaties of Germain, Westminster and Breda mentioned in the Report, and the memorials which are also referred to in the Report.

cc. The act assigning Lord Cartaret's share in 1740.

dd. Charter to Virginia 10 April, 1606.

ee. Charter to Virginia 12 March 1611–12.

ff. Lawson's history of Carolina p. 256.

gg. Instruction to Mr Gooch in 1748–9 and the letter accompanying it.

hh. Act of the Virginia assembly in 1753 as to settlers on the Mississippi.

ii. Act to the same purpose in 1754.

kk. Order for lands at the fork of Ohio and Mississippi in

ll. Dinwiddie's proclamation in 1754.

mm. Estimate of monies expended by Virginia for the western country.

nn. Duke de Mirepoix's memorial to London 14 May 1755.

oo. The Documents of New York.

pp. Bowen's map of North America.

qq. Treaty of Aix la Chapelle.

rr. Treaty of Fort Stanwix in 1768.

ss. Mr Gerard's memorial 22nd May, 1779.

affairs, to be by him digested, completed and transmitted to the ministers plenipotentiary of the United States for negotiating a treaty of peace—

A motion was made by Mr. [John] Rutledge, seconded by Mr. [Hugh] Williamson, to postpone the consideration of the report to make way for a motion, which he read in his place by way of argument.

On the question for postponing, the yeas and nays were required by Mr. [Edward] Telfair,

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|---|---|---|---|
| *New Hampshire,* | | *Delaware,* | |
| Mr. Gilman, | no * | Mr. Wharton, | no * |
| *Massachusetts,* | | *Maryland,* | |
| Mr. Osgood, | no | Mr. Hanson, | ay |
| Jackson, | no | Wright, | ay |
| *Rhode Island,* | | *Virginia,* | |
| Mr. Cornell, | no | Mr. Madison, | ay |
| Howell, | no | Bland, | ay |
| *Connecticut,* | | Lee, | ay |
| Mr. Root, | ay | *North Carolina,* | |
| Huntington, | ay | Mr. Williamson, | ay |
| Dyer, | ay | Blount, | ay |
| *New York,* | | *South Carolina,* | |
| Mr. Scott, | ay * | Mr. Rutledge, | ay |
| *New Jersey,* | | Ramsay, | ay |
| Mr. Clark, | no | Izard, | ay |
| Witherspoon, | no | Middleton, | ay |
| *Pennsylvania,* | | *Georgia,* | |
| Mr. Montgomery, | no | Mr. Telfair, | ay |
| Smith, | ay | Jones, | ay |
| Clymer, | no | Few, | ay |
| Atlee, | no | | |

So the question was lost.

A motion was made by Mr. [John] Witherspoon, seconded by Mr. [Joseph] Montgomery, "that the report be committed:"

And on the question for commitment, the yeas and nays being required by Mr. [Theodorick] Bland,

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| *New Hampshire,* | | | |
| Mr. Gilman, | no | * | |
| *Massachusetts,* | | | |
| Mr. Jackson, | ay | * | |
| *Rhode Island,* | | | |
| Mr. Cornell, | ay | | |
| Howell, | ay | ay | |
| *Connecticut,* | | | |
| Mr. Root, | ay | | |
| Huntington, | ay | ay | |
| Dyer, | ay | | |
| *New York,* | | | |
| Mr. Duane, | ay | | |
| Scott, | ay | ay | |
| *New Jersey,* | | | |
| Mr. Clark, | ay | | |
| Witherspoon, | ay | ay | |
| *Pennsylvania,* | | | |
| Mr. Montgomery, | ay | | |
| Smith, | ay | | |
| Clymer, | ay | ay | |
| Atlee, | ay | | |
| *Delaware,* | | | |
| Mr. Wharton, | ay | * | |
| *Maryland,* | | | |
| Mr. Hanson, | ay | | |
| Wright, | ay | ay | |
| *Virginia,* | | | |
| Mr. Madison, | ay | | |
| Bland, | ay | ay | |
| Lee, | ay | | |
| *North Carolina,* | | | |
| Mr. Williamson, | ay | | |
| Blount, | ay | ay | |
| *South Carolina,* | | | |
| Mr. Rutledge, | ay | | |
| Ramsay, | ay | | |
| Izard, | ay | ay | |
| Middleton, | ay | | |
| Gervais, | ay | | |
| *Georgia,* | | | |
| Mr. Telfair, | no | | |
| Jones, | ay | ay | |
| Few, | ay | | |

So it was resolved in the affirmative.[1]

On the report of a committee, consisting of Mr. [Joseph] Montgomery, Mr. [Ezekiel] Cornell and Mr. [Theodorick] Bland, to whom was referred a letter of 12 from the Secretary

[1] The report in regard to fisheries was entered only in the manuscript Secret Journal, Foreign Affairs. Mr. Rutledge's motion to postpone its consideration, Mr. Witherspoon's motion to commit it, and the votes upon those motions, were entered in both Public and Secret Journals. Committee Book No. 186 shows that on August 5 Mr. [James] Duane, Mr. [Hugh] Williamson, Mr. [Samuel] Osgood and Mr. [James] Madison were "added to Mr. Montgomery" on this committee "vice Carroll and Randolph," and that on August 20 the report was recommitted to Mr. [John] Rutledge, Mr. [James] Duane, Mr. [John] Witherspoon, Mr. [David] Howell and Mr. [Joseph] Montgomery.

at War, covering the extract of a letter from the Commander in Chief:

The Committee to whom was referred a letter from the Secretary at War covering the extract of a letter from his Excellency the Commander in Chief and copies of two letters from Col. Willet, Beg leave to report, That from the Representation made by his Excellency General Washington of the nature of the services performed by the levies raised by the State of New York, it appears that they are nearly equal to those they would render were they incorporated with the standing Regiments of that State, and submit to the consideration of Congress the following Resolve:

*Resolved*, That the Secretary at War be, and he is hereby, directed to issue cloathing, from time to time, in like proportion as to the continental troops, to the two regiments of infantry raised by the State of New York, under the resolution of Congress of the 2d of April, 1781, though the continental regiments of that State are not quite completed to the establishment.

Your Committee beg leave farther to report—

That they are fully in opinion that humanity, justice, policy and even economy unitedly invite an attention to the tribes of Indians which are retained in our interest: and that the most speedy and effectual measures should be adopted for clothing them according to their own manner and customs—

The following Resolve is submitted to the consideration of Congress:

*Resolved*, That the commissioners of Indian affairs in the northern department ~~be requested to~~ report to Congress as soon as may be, the articles necessary to cloathe the Indians in our interests, so as to make them useful, and to appear with respect among the other tribes.[1]

[1] This report, in the writing of a clerk, is in the *Papers of the Continental Congress*, No. 27, folio 179. The Secretary at War's letter is in No. 149, I, folio 575.

Montreal 6th Monday
January 1812

46

Sir

Agreable to Your intentions communicated
to your Excellency by Monday last with my reasons
for doing so, I have waited the arrival of the
morning; but as it has produced me no different orders
from your Excellency and that every thing is at length
arranged for proceeding, via St Johns Isleaux tonight
me on Monday evening and the Canoes with their effects
leaving Lost together at La Chine last night, I have the
honour to request your Excellency that we may soon
the point of setting off with the Second Brigade for Upper
at the end of the Island, where the Canoes are ordered to

[illegible] for us, and that I have to read the Life of the
Mountain Hermit. Having heard yesterday
that two Letters on account of some Merchants in this place
(2nd) [illegible] all Letters for Kentucky were sent
Lee La Chine but brought. I thought it my [illegible] duty
the notice of your Excellency's intention in sending me there.
at present that nothing should arrive before me, I shall
therefore I supplied to Congress Stores who sent off for
[illegible] for Congress is the first [illegible] to stop their [illegible]
until it is my intention at present shall not be
[illegible] I proceed from that place till we have got the

by a visit of Hers; all which I have
my most sick poor Darling's Affectionate Husband
with the greatest respect
Yours most devoted and
Mrs L Lincoln Servant
Long Life

General Hitchcock

Extract of a Letter from G. Clark, Esq. to Holland
dated 26th 1782

(Copy)

Shawnee Country [illegible] 23d July 1782

Sir,

My Letters of the 22d and 23d July informed you of the Reports brought us of the Enemy's motions at that time which was delivered by the Chiefs of the Seneca Town Village, and confirmed by Bells and Strings of Wampum in a manner [illegible] that could not but gain credit with us. We believe the account the greatest Body of Indians collected to an advantageous piece of ground near the Chiquagee Village that have been assembled in this Quarter since the commencement of the War, and perhaps may ever be, in hopes of [illegible] to engage the Enemy, when the Scouts sent [illegible] the Ohio informed us that the accounts we had received were false, this disappointment occasioning all our endeavours to keep them together, caused them to depart in disgust with each other - The Inhabitants of this Country who were the most immediately interested in keeping in a Body were the first that broke off, and tho' we advanced towards the Ohio with upwards of three hundred Hurons and Lake Indians, few of the Delawares, Shawnese or Mingoes followed us. On our arrival at the Ohio we remained still in uncertainty with respect to the Enemy's motions, and it was thought best from hence to send Scouts to the Falls, and that the main Body should advance into the Enemy's Country, and endeavour to lead out a Party from some of their Forts by which we might be able to gain some certain Intelligence. Accordingly we crossed the Ohio and arrived the 18th inst. at one of the Enemy's Settlements call'd Bryants' Station, but the Indians

discovering

discovering their numbers formed a line coming out, and the Lake Indians finding this, crawled up to the Fort and set several out Houses on Fire, but at too great a distance to touch the Fort — the Wind blowing the contrary way — The Firing continued this day, during which time a Party of about Twenty of the Enemy approached a part that happened not to be guarded, and about one half of them reached it, the rest being drove back by a few Indians who were near the place. — The next morning finding it to no purpose to keep up a fire longer upon the Fort as we were getting Men killed, and had already several Men wounded which were to be carried — The Indians determined to Retreat, and on the 20th reached the Blue Licks, where we encamp'd near an advantageous Hill, and expecting the Enemy would pursue, determined here to wait for 'em, keeping Spies at the Lick, who on the morning of the 21st discovering them, and at half past 7 O'Clock we engaged them and totally defeated them in a short time — We were not much superior to them in numbers, they being about 200 pick'd Men from the Settlement of Kentucky, Commanded by the Colonels Todd, Trigg, Boone, and Todd, with the Majors Harlin and M'Geary, most of whom fell in the action. From the best enquiry I could make upon the Spot, there was upwards of One hundred and Forty Kill'd and taken, with near one hundred Rifles — several being thrown into a deep River that were not recovered. It was said by the Prisoners that a Colonel Logan was expected to join them with one hundred Men more; We waited upon the ground this day for him, but seeing there was not much probability of his coming, we set off and crossed the Ohio the second day after the action. Capt. Caldwell and I arrived at this place last night with a

(design

Design of sending some assistance to those who are bringing the wounded People, who are fourteen in number. We had Ten Indians Killed with Mr La Butt of the Indian Dept. who by saving the life of one of the Enemy and endeavoring to take him Prisoner, lost his own.

To our disappointment we find no Provisions brought forward to this place, or likelihood of any for some time, and we have entirely subsisted since we left this on what we got in the Woods and took from the Enemy.

The Prisoners all agree in their account that there is no talk of any Expedition from that Quarter, nor indeed are they able without assistance from the Colonies, and that the Militia of the Country have been employed during the summer in Building the Fort at the Falls, and what they call a Row Galley which has made one Trip up the River to the mouth of the Big Miamis and occasioned that alarm which made us so much trouble, — She carries One six pounder, six 4 pounders, and two 2 pounders, and rows Fifty Oars — She had at the big bone Lick One hundred men, but being thirty draughts from the Militia, many of 'em left her on different parts of the River. One of the Prisoners mentions the arrival of Boats lately from Fort Pitt, and that Letters has past between the Commanding Officer of that place and Mr Clark, intimating that preparation is making there for another Expedition in the Indian Country. We have since our arrival heard something of this matter and that the particulars has been forwarded to you —— A Detachment of Rangers with a large party of Delawares and Shawanese are gone that way, who will be able to discover the truth of this matter.

I am

I am this day favored with yours of the 6th of August containing the report of Jno. Evans concerning the Cruelties of the Indians. It is true they have made Sacrifices to their Revenge after the Massacre of their Women & Children, some being known to them to be perpetrators of it: but it was done in my absence & before I could reach any of the places to interfere, and I can assure you Sir, that there is not a white Person here wanting in their duty to represent to the Indians in the Strongest terms the highest abhorrence of such conduct, as well as the bad consequences that may attend it to both them and us, being contrary to the rule of carrying on War by civilized Nations; however, it is not improbable that Evans may have exaggerated matters greatly, being notoriously known for a disaffected Person, and concern'd in sending Prisoners away with Intelligence to the Enemy, at the time Capt. Bird came out as we were then informed.

I flatter myself that I may by this time have an answer to the Letter I had the honour of writing to the Commander in Chief on leaving Detroit. Mr. Elliot is to be the Bearer of this, who will be able to give you any further information necessary respecting matters here.

(Signed) Alex. McKee

Major De Peyster.

Copy of a Letter from Capt. McKee to Major De Peyster dated at the Shawanese Town August 25th 1782.

Niagara 31st August 1782

Adongots Son, a Seneca Chief from Chenussio just arrived and informs Mr Dease, he has been out with 16 Warriors to Minisink, mentions he took three Prisoners, who proving to be Loyalists he Released, they acquainted him, there were a Number of French Troops in the neighbourhood of New York, that Genl Washington had agreed to Cessation of Arms, in order to effect a general Exchange of Prisoners, that he has had a Meeting with the Cuiuga Indians at Alleny whom he gave a War Belt, and Desired them to go to Sunge and Conajadahs and bring him for intelligence — The Loyalists also

there were Four Regulars Posts at Four miles and discribed to him to a place where Niagara he might meet with Rebels, which place he went to, attacked twenty Rebels of whom he killed and Scalped Eight —

## XII.—Cook to Irvine.*

*August* 27, 1782.

*Sir:*—I thought to have been able to inform you something particular about the intended expedition. I am yet in the dark about it. I have had no return from the north side of Youghiogheny as yet; although I am of opinion that this county would furnish near five hundred men with provision and horses equivalent; that is, from what I have been able to learn, although I am obliged to build something on conjecture. Colonel Harrison is on his way to Colonel Marshel in order to investigate the state of matters there and will call upon you on his return.

P. S.—Sir: After I had sealed this letter I recollected this from Colonel [Charles] Campbell respecting spies he says he has hired, desiring me to acquaint you with them.[1] September 2, 1782.

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## XIII.—Irvine to Cook.

[circular.]

[No date.][2]

The negro man who came in from the Shawanese town arrived at the Mingo bottom [on the east side of the Ohio], the 7th Aug., and was fifteen days on the way.

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[1] The letter here referred to was as follows:

"*August* 27, 1782.

"*Sir:*—A return of Captain Hugh Martin's and Captain John McClelland's volunteers to go on the campaign and horses and rations: men, twenty-eight; rations, nineteen hundred and eight; horses, ten. Sir, these are all the returns that were made to me of this battalion. You will inform the general [Irvine] that I have hired six spies that keep a constant scouting from the Laurel Hill to Wasson's place on Crooked creek; and if he would order it so that the spies who go up the Alleghany and they, were to meet, he could have constant intelligence if any party of Indians would come in any part to strike the inhabitants. I am, sir, your humble servant,

"Cha's Campbell.

"To Colonel Edward Cook."

[2] Written about September 1, 1782.

He was examined minutely by me. The interesting and material parts of the intelligence he brings are as follow:

That last winter Capt. [Alexander] McKee[1] was busy arranging matters with the Indians to come against Fort Pitt in the spring; but, in February, two deserters arrived at the [Shawanese] towns from Gen. Clark, who gave the information that Fort Pitt was put into such a state of defense as would render the reduction of it uncertain; but that the Falls [Louisville] were weak, and could easily be reduced. On this report, they changed their ground and determined to go against the Falls and continued in this mind till after Colonel Crawford's expedition. They then changed their ground once more and determined to reduce Wheeling. Mr. McKee actually marched for that purpose from the [Shawanese] towns [in what is now Logan county, Ohio] with one hundred rangers (British) as they are called [Capt. Caldwell's company], and about three hundred Indians.[2] A day or two after his departure runners came in who gave the information that Gen. Clark was approaching with a train of artillery and a large body of troops.

The alarm was universally given and expresses sent after McKee, who returned to the town [Wapatomica]. In the mean time Blue Jacket, the Shawanese chief, went himself to reconnoiter Gen. Clark. He returned in six days with a confirmation of the first report; on which McKee marched with every soul that could be collected; the negro thinks, in all about one thousand, but is of opinion that not more than one-

[1] Alexander McKee was a native of Pensylvania and early became a trader among the Indians, carrying on a large business from Pittsburgh in conjunction with Alexander Ross, from 1768 to 1772, when he became Sir William Johnson's deputy Indian agent, resident at that place. He was, upon the erection of Bedford county, made one of its justices; and, upon the creation of Westmoreland, his commission was extended for that county. Upon the breaking out of the revolution, he was suspected of tory proclivities and was put upon his parole; which was afterward renewed. Finally, in the spring of 1778, he fled (along with Matthew Elliott, Simon Girty and others) to the enemy, reaching Detroit at length, where he was continued in the Indian department. He had his headquarters, at date of the negro's leaving the Indian country, among the Shawanese.

[2] That McKee after Crawford's defeat left Lower Sandusky for the Shawanese towns is certain.

half of that number were active, real warriors; as there was a great number of boys, old men, and even women who marched.

Upon the whole he does not think more than seven hundred were fit to bear arms, in which number he includes the hundred English [Caldwell's company]. The [Shawanese] towns were quite evacuated except a few women and children and some prisoners. These were busily employed in packing up their effects to push towards Detroit, in case Gen. Clark should beat their warriors, of which they were exceedingly apprehensive. They were determined, however, to meet and fight him near the town [Piqua, on Mad river, six miles below the present Springfield, O.] he drove them from, two years ago, about forty miles from where they now live.

The tribes assembled on this occasion were the Shawanese, Delawares, Wyandots, Mingoes, Monseys, Ottawas and Chippewas, which include the whole on this side the Lake [Erie]. He adds that every man was there who was able to crawl. Before McKee returned [from his short march towards Wheeling] he detached forty warriors with two Frenchmen, with orders to watch our frontiers and give intelligence of our movements, particularly if an expedition was "carrying on their backs," as he termed it.[1]

From a variety of circumstances I am led to give credit to the negro's account, particularly his mode of escape and his having lived two years with Blue Jacket, as much in the character of a steward or manager as a servant; besides, the fellow tells a plain, connected history. As I apprehended a circulation of this account through the country may be both satisfactory and useful, I have troubled you with it. If you are of this opinion, you will please to let it be as generally known as possible.

[1] After the negro left, the enemy successfully invaded Kentucky and gained the battle of the Blue Licks, in August. In September, the expedition against Wheeling was renewed (Zane to Irvine, September 17, 1782, Appendix M), but it availed them little. Gen. Clark met the enemy, finally, at what is now Piqua, Miami county, Ohio, on the 10th of November, 1782, surprising and routing them. (See Clark to Irvine, November 13, 1782, Appendix M.)

P. S.— Mr. Slover was present when I examined the negro; he says he lived in the family with him at the town [Wapatomica] and thinks he may be depended on.[1]

XIV.— Cook to Irvine.

*September* 3, 1782.

*Sir:*— I herewith send you as accurate a return as I believe can be made.[2] I have struck off some that were actually returned, to make an allowance for lee-way; and if I can depend upon the returns made to me, which I think there is not the least doubt, you may rely on this. I have collected the returns of the second battalion from the captains myself; and inclosed you have two of the colonels' returns, which will show you how much I have allowed for lee-way, I have no return from the third battalion, but I have received a letter declaring their quota completed. I have allowed him [the colonel of said battalion] for lee-way fifteen men and ten horses.

I have hereby showed you how I have formed my judgment of the matter. I have also sent to the different battalions and have let them know that they may expect the rendezvous will be about the 15th instant, but that they shall hear from me when it is absolutely appointed or set.

XV.— Cook to Irvine.

*September* 9, 1782.

*Sir:*— I received yours dated this day, and will take every effectual measure in my power to have the militia assembled by the day appointed. There is a number of them speaking to me to enquire of the general if he can furnish them pistols, swords and carbines suitable for light horse or cavalry. I have been importuned to mention it, and you may take what notice you think proper of it.

[1] I have been able to verify almost all the particulars of this interesting and very valuable account of the transactions of the enemy in the Indian country during the first half of the year 1782. The negro's recital was singularly truthful and clear.

[2] "Return" not found.

A Speech made by the Onidas Tuscaroras and French Mohawks in Schonetady on the 9th Sept. 1702

Brethren. We have met here upon business of the great est importance and we beg your attention —

You have allways told us to have long ears and sharp eyes and keep a good look out we have done so and we have heard word of great importance to ourselves Brethren upon what we have heard we have called a general meeting of all your brethren the Onidas Tuscaroras and French Mohawks we have searched into this matter and found it out in some measure to be true. You our brethren have often told us to have a particular eye towards our lands we have done so and even had not you told us so we have had that sense of ourselves —

It has now Brethren reached our ears from below that there are some people who want to take away our Lands by fine Meals —

Last fall some of your Brethren in particular Col. Hunter made a contract with some of our Brethren for a quantity of Land.

Brethren we have took it into consideration and all the Sachems and Warriors of the Nations here present have agreed that the bargain made between some of your brethren and ours shall be null and void and we have also agreed amongst ourselves that not one inch of our Land shall be sold

If one two or three Indians or Warriors should get into Liquor and make a sale of any part of our Lands the rest on finding it out will not agree to it and break the agreement and it shall not stand -

Brethren - This that we your Brethren desire they may be confirmed in by a Law made by the great men of this State that no person shall purchase or buy any Land from any of your Brethren, as we do not wish to have any of our territories divided - This we beg Brethren you will pay attention to in a particular manner -

Lieut. Colonel Dundas

Quebec 9th September 1782

Sir

By a Letter I have just received from Major Ross, I learn, with great Concern, that the Oneida Indians with Him have refused to Act, and that all the Indians have left Oswego much discontented on being prevented from going to War — It is fortunate that Sir John Johnson's Tour to the Upper Lakes is so happily timed — I have written to Him upon the Subject, and have no doubt that his Presence will have a good Effect in conciliating the minds of the Indians — I hope he will arrive at Niagara about the 1st of October, in the Mean Time, I must recommend to yours and Colo. Butlers most serious Attention, the Adoption of every means by which the minds of the Indians can be quietted — Much Pains must be taken to convince them of the pernicious Consequences as well to themselves as to us, of so vicious a War, and that a termination of it, will by no means exclude them from a Continuance of the King's Favor and Protection, on the Contrary, the firm attachment they have manifested thro out the Rebellion in support of His and their own Rights, will as firmly attach him to their future Welfare and Happiness — They are not however to conceive, from the present Suspension of Hostilities, that a Peace is concluded but you will give them to understand that Overtures are making for that purpose, at which Period it is inconsistant with the Laws of Nations to carry on offensive Operations, and the King wishes to improve this Opportunity to stop the effusion of Blood, and to give his deluded Children an Interval to reflect upon their bad Conduct, and from a Conviction of it to accept the generous Offers He has made them — whatever may be Result, You may assure the Indians that while they persevere in the King's cause and pursue with Him the measures he shall adopt, He will consider their Interest interwoven with that of his own People, and continue to them His Favor and Protection in like manner.

I am &c

(signed) F. H.

Journal at Detroit 1st Sept. 1812

present

Capt. St. [illegible] } Commds.
Captain William Dee
Captain Burnett
Lieut. Brooke
Lieut. Saumarez
Lieut. Cole [illegible]
Lieut. Foley & Gordon Interpreters
the half Kings and several other principal
Indians [illegible] at which Tecumseh
& the Indians [illegible] for the Warriors
[illegible] Head

} Kings Regt.

Capt. St Clair addressed them

Children!

This Morning have you been ready and
now you of until to morrow was
not the enemy coming towards your
Country. It is therefore requisite that
we march immediately. You will
[illegible] and I shall listen with
attention to what you shall say in
the presence of the [illegible] Officers
who are here —

Half Kings then says

Father! Grieving me pleasure

to find that you are ready to hear us so soon, we are as ready to speak as you may be to listen

Father! some time ago you sent us One of your people Captain Caldwell who is yet with us for which we offer our thanks to you and the Great Chief below as he proves to be a good Warrior

Father! I repeat to you again we are happy that you have sent Captain Caldwell amongst us and we hope that you will let him remain the winter in order to be ready to join us to defend our Towns against the Enemy should they attempt anything in the Spring — what I now say is the wish of all who are of my colour and think it necessary to have such a man as Capt. Caldwell with us.

Father Our first intentions were to go towards Wheeling but an express overtook us and obliged us to go to the Shawanese Country where it was expected the Enemy was coming — that business being over we are determined yet to go that way and beg that your Proposals may be accompanied with the Canoes this Fall which will then be at hand for us in the Spring

Father! The above request is made to You because you told us whenever we applied to you for support you would grant it

11th

Father.

We are sorry that we do not
more troops to join you than you have
sent us we do not see the reason that
we request more men it is because
in the late Battle we lost the best
of our Warriors

Father We pray of you by all means
to send us Ammunition and Provision
this Fall that we may be ready for
and able to stand the enemy
on the back —

Also 4 Strings Wampum
the half King 4 Spade, or 4 other Strings

Father! When you send us the Ammunition
for we shall [illegible] we think you
would do right to send some Artificers
for to build Magazines and Forts in our
Country that we may be able to repair
to them occasionally without coming
in as this we to be provided with
our wants —

Maj. Gen. Gage in Said

Children!

Take up your Spoke to
a Prisoner
me on the present you made for
which

Will I return you my thanks in it
reply to your last discourse

Children! I shall now answer your
discourse and that you may take it
for a final one, for it will not deviate
what your former father whom
I represent told you, which was "that
he would support his Children while
they were to act against the Enemy
but as your Father I have a right
to give you what I think proper
and when I am no longer capable to
do it, I am not be your father —

'Listen' When I was made acquainted
that the Enemies coming towards
your Towns, did I not send you what
Troops and assistance I could? and
was it not by that timely assistance
the Enemy was defeated? did not my
troops even follow and defeat them
in their own country! how can you
then despise those very Men who you
know are able to act against enemy
when you really are in want of supp-
ort apply to me and you will find me
ready to fulfil the words of my Predec-
ors — Children! I am pleased to hear
you express a liking for Captain Caldwell
but I cannot promise that he and his
Men

16

his Men remain to be [illegible] with you
you will of my [illegible] Artificers
Indian Country to meet
Magazine to issue Provision &
which you [illegible] to Visit and be
Prepared thus, I sadly believe that
want of Provision will oblige
me to call in Captain Caldwell and
his Men — impossible to find
Provision there to supply every Woman
and Child who may apply for them —
dren. If you will agree "That
what Provision I may send to Capt.
Caldwell shall [illegible] and his Men,
use only I will then consent that
remain with fifty of his Men
but if otherwise I cannot allow of it
I shall expect an answer to this
as soon as you have consulted your
people at St. Dooskey thro' the hands
of Capt. Caldwell — I have order Com.
things to be provided as soon as
soon as any Goods arrive I will then
or a Proportion of them to be made
up in Bales for the several Nations
with proper marks thereon, to prevent
mistaking mistakes in
which shall be forwarded —

I am Sir &c

he then Speaks on other Strings —

Childreen! These Strings are from your father the great man below he sent them to me after hearing the account of the massacre of Colonel Crawford and others — he Says. "Some time ago you wrote me word that my Indian Childreen were making free like our own people that they delivered up their Prisoners when how comes it then that in the late affair at S.t Dooskey that a great man was most cruelly put to death? had he been kept alive and sent down he might have given intelligence which would have been of Service? did they kill this man because the Enemy put to death the Moravian Indians? if so, I must advise them not to retaliate upon their enemies for the Great Spirit does not take pleasure in cruelties nor will I your father allow of it —

Childreen. You now have been informed what I had to deliver to you from your father the great Man at Quebec — I now tell you that I am ever ready to take care of you while you act as men and Warriors but not as bad Men and others whom fortune of war may throw in to your

nearly as [illegible] determines never to
seek as do —

Major DePeyster refers them for his own
reflections, to the Indian Country

Extract from the Minutes
J. Schieffelin Jun.r

Detroit the 27th Sept 1782

Sir

I am just favoured with your letter and one from Captain Caldwell, both reporting the Enemy advancing towards Sandusky, and requesting a reinforcement — In Consequence of which I have ordered the Ottawas of the Miamis River and shall speak to them upon the Subject.

I have also ordered a Detachment of fifty Soldiers, with Artillery properly Officered to take post at the Rocks debout, in order to support you in case you are obliged to put my former orders into execution, which are if you find the Enemy too strong, to retreat and give time for the Neighbouring Nations to Assemble — Captain Brant sets out with Captain Potts, who will help to spirit up the Six Nations — As matters are

Circumstanced

Circumstances, as it will be in my power to allow Captain Pitts to proceed further than the Miramichi River, nor indeed would I allow them to join Captain Sadowski before the Enemy approach them — You will of course endeavour to form a junction with Capt Sadowski as soon as you are convinced that Landersky is the Object the Enemy have in View —. In every other matter, I must leave you to act discretionary as circumstances may require for the good of the Service —

I am &c

Your Most Humble
& most obed.t

A. DeLancey

Lieut Colonel
Deputy Quarter Master Genl

There is nothing
on page 169.

17° Ord. It is thought best that the Department
should take post at the Block house, Cobb's
Mill at the mouth of the Miamis

Detroit the 29th September

259

Sing to me, Heart, of the Passion
of Him Who Loves Thee,
Sing of the Love that Gave Him
Power to Suffer and Die.
Sing of the Blood that Flowed
for the Pardon of Sinners,
Sing of the Mercy that Saves.

Detroit the 1st Oct. 1782.

Dear Sir

I am favoured with your letter of 22d. and 26 ultimo, by which the Enemy seem inclined to cut off the Huron and Shawnee Villages - By the accounts of their force in the present sickly state of the Rangers and the Indians being so much dejected I fear you will be Obliged to retreat at least till you are joined by the Miamies. I have sent all the Indians I could muster particularly the Ottawas of Thessaniekie. Pouskwa is also gone; and Eight of Red Stone Nations which arrived here in the last Vessels - You must be sensible

Hard

1782. PUBLIC ARCHIVES OF CANADA, OTTAWA, MANUSCRIPTS DIVISION, CLAUS PAPERS, MG 19, F1, VOL. 3, 171-172.

171

that my soldiers are little acquainted with wood fighting, and Ill equiped for it- with all_ I have therefore only ordered them to take post where they can secure the Ammunition and provisions and support you in case you are obliged to retreat which I hope will- still not be the case. If the Indians are as determined as they have hitherto shewn themselves. I am very unwell and have an ugly bruised Thumb which with I hope apologize for the brevity of this Letter.

I am Sir

Your Humble Servt

Alex McKee Esqr.

A. L. Dudley Stes

Dft

Niagara 5th Sept 1780

177

Sir

I have the honor to acknowledge the Receipt of your Excellency's Letter by Lt. Colonel Hope who arrived here the 1st instant, and have paid attention to your orders: I refer you to him for the reports received from the Indian country the day he left Detroit.

It gives me great pleasure to assure you that the Indians are by no means dissatisfied; I am informed that the whole Indians have been for some time past with Major Ross, and in his Letter to me received last night, he tells me that the Indians now with him, behave extremely well; but says he has too few of them; Sir John Johnson will take care that more are sent immediately. —— Colonel Butler has been for some time past in a very dangerous way, but I am happy to find he is now recovering fast: Your Excellency's orders relative to the Indians, communicated to me in yours of the 9th Ult.o, shall be strictly complied with: by Colonel Butler's influence & zealous attention, I am confident of being furnished with

the best intelligence from the Indian country; tho' I don't imagine there is any cause to mistrust them at present; yet it is certainly necessary to take every precaution; and I shall give orders to the Out Posts to observe the strictest vigilance and attention, to prevent a possibility of surprize. —

Lt. Col. Hope & Sir John Johnson will give Your Excellency every information relative to this country; it gave me the greatest pleasure to find Sir John was to pass this way; and I sincerely wish he may put every thing relative to that Department on a proper footing. —

I have the honor to be with the greatest respect,

Sir

Your Excellency's

Most Obedient and

Most Humble Servant

A. Dundas

His Excellency
General Haldimand

Mr. Thomas Jefferson
Monticello
Albemarle County
Virginia

Montreal 11th Oct. 1792.

Sir

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of Your Excellency's Letter of the 5th Inst. at Niagara I immediately assembled the Indians at the Loyal Conederate Village and spoke to them upon the subject recommended, without the aid of any of those employed in the Department there, I am happy to inform Your Excellency that in the Presence of Lieut. Col. Hope they with a warm hand immediate Acquiescence Agreed to every thing that was proposed, and sent the next Morning Thirty Warriors to embark for Onuega, where I have ordered directed, the Contrary to your directions not to interfere in the Department till after my return a party may

be sent to remain for the Winter under the
Command of one of their best Officers —

I arrived here yesterday afternoon, left
Col. Hoyle & Mr. Goddard at Carleton's, and but imagine
they will be here to morrow or next day. I shall remain
here three or four days to Arrange some Matters
after which I shall immediately repair to Quebec for
the purpose signified to me in your Excellency's Letter
of the 9th Inst. when I have the Honor to remain

With great respect
Sir Your Excellency's
Most Obedient &
most Humble Servant
John Johnson

1798.

Sir

I am commanded by the
Lords Commissioners
of the Admiralty
to acquaint you

Sir

Sandusky July the 4th 1782

I was yesterday favoured with yours by Mr Elliot with the Strings of Wampum for the Wyandotts & Lake Indians & made them acquainted with what the Shawanese, Mingos & Delawares had said respecting their sitting still a few days but was sorry to be Obliged to tell you they absolutely refuse to give them assistance, they say if they want any let them send to the Miamis. I intend to move as soon as possible and would be glad of your advice & any assistance you can give me, The Wyandotts have agreed but the Lake Indians will not,

I am Sir with the greatest Compliments

Your Sincerely

Wm Caldwell

Capt. M. Kee

ARCHIVES PUBLIQUES PUBLIC ARCHIVES CANADA

Mr. Whaston's Rect. for
papers taken from the
file of papers respecting
Western Territory

Received of Charles Thompson Esq.
the Journals of the Transactions of a
Treaty held by the late Sir William
Johnson in the year 1768 with the Six Nations of
Indians at Fort Stanwix in the
State of New York. NB. The said
Journals belong to Me. But were sent
with my Consent into the Office of the
Secretary of Congress by a Committee of
Congress. Philad.a 27th Nov.r 1782

Sam.l B Thruston

Journal Book 1 Dumbarton

Present

Capt. H. Dutton Commandant

Capt. H. Dutton Leg. Capt. Hunger Leg.

Capt. W. Caldwell, Corps of Rangers

Lieut. Sawrey, Kings Leg. Inspector

Major D. Bay. H. Indian Interpreter

A Band of Chiefs from the Shawanese Country

Oh my Father! I am sorry to see you look sad, your children are all Brave Warriors, and love their Father, I must inform you of a Plot laid by the Shawanese the Kings Enemies to destroy the Kings Liege People and Subjects, but by the care of the Warriors

In Council Detroit 7th Dec.r 1782

Present

Major H.s I. DeDeyster, Commd.t
Capt.n Ls. Potts
Mess.rs D. Bâby & W. Tucker Interp.rs

A Band of Senecas from the Shawanese Countries —

Ayonwienth a Seneca Speaks

Father! I must remind you of your former promises when you first engaged us to espouse the Kings cause you told us that not only you would supply the Warriours wants but also those of our families in profusion —

Delivers 3 Strings

Father. We have received a Message last Summer through you from the Commander in Chief forbidding us to beat Prisoners with Cruelty, assuring us that it was contrary to the Laws of God and Custom of Nations — I have accepted that Speech which I shall preserve, however recollect that we have injuries to revenge and altho' you protect the Enemy from the Stake, you shall not from their death

for

for the warriours are determined not to spare them in Battle therefore Father be not Surprised to see in future more Scalps then Prisoners

Father. After having reminded you of your Promises and done your will I must inform you that we were much surprised to see people return to our Village unprovided Owing to the want of wherewith to Supply them as you told them you wanted the things which they desired to have. I beg of you not to use the same discourse to us that you want certain things, but that you will provide not only those who have accompanied me but those also who we have left behind us to guard our Village

Father! I and my People expect that you will give us necessaries in abundance as also Such Ornaments which is acceptable and pleasing to young Men, if otherwise we shall Imagine you don't Speak from the Heart, Father! you cannot be ignorant that we are always engaged with an enemy or watching our Villages — Deliver 6 String,

You recollect that the last time I was here, I lost a Prisoner which you promised to see returned as he was adopted among us. I am therefore surprized that you have not yet satisfied me on that head, as it does not correspond with your promises I find by experience from my knowledge of mankind that from the late alteration you only speak from the Mouth I beg of you to consider that my loss is great with respect to the Prisoner if ever you have been in my situation judge from your feelings if I have not reason to regret his loss —

'Father.' Before I finish my discourse I must repeat to you again to treat our Warriors well in supplying them with such things as they require, if not, what effect will my discourses have upon them to enforce what you may direct —

'Father.' Remember that you ordered two barrels of Powder to be delivered to us at Ft. Dooskey of which

which we have received but a
Small part, we hope you will
therefore order it to be given us
at present, exclusive of our pro-
portion which we expect to receive.

Majr. DeLeyster then answered -

Children, the Six Nations who
inhabit the Shawanese Country
Listen to the answer which I
shall make to your Speech "When
the Governor of this place first en-
gaged you to take the part of
your English father he looked upon
it as best for our mutual in-
terest. On my arrival here I
saw the Necessity of your continuing
to act on the Side you were en-
gaged in, without (which you must
have been overpowered before Now
You cannot desire but that I
have ever fulfilled his promises
as far as circumstances would
admit - You that have so great
a knowledge of human kind must
also be able to make allowances
for accidents - the Ship which is

loaded

loaded with the goods for Indian
presents was twice taken at Sea
and as often re-taken by us, she
at length arrived at Quebec but it
was so late that the goods could
not get up the Country in time
they are at length arrived at
Niagara and I am looking out
for them every day, when they arrive
here you may expect to receive a
proportion of such articles as the
Commander in Chief has thought
proper to send for his Indian Allies
but should you grow impatient
before that time arrive and wish to
go home, you must be content
with such things only as I have
to give you -

With respect to the Barrels
of Gun Powder which you desire
to have over and above, I must
observe to you that I do not
mean the Powder as a reward
for your Services, but in order to
defend yourselves against the enemy
and to hunt, the time which that
Powder should have been expended
is past, since which I have repeat-
edly sent Powder in great quantity
and make no doubt but you have
received your share thereof.

Childers

Children! Consider that we are
to act for our mutual interest
if you push me beyond my
abilities we shall both fail
If you find yourselves disappointed
in your not receiving your necessary
wants, immediately depend upon it
I am not so particularly so from
the recommendation I have had
has given me of your conduct in
the last Campaigne —

With regard to the Message
which I sent you desiring you to
use the Prisoners with humanity
You must recollect that it is a
language I have upon all occasions
held out to you, and let me repeat
that it is greatly your Interest
to do it — If Captain Pipe had
not put that Colonel to death
after he had made him prisoner
the Enemy would not have made
an attack upon the Indian Country
this year, for from every intelligence
which I receive they estimate at
was to revenge his death
Children! I have another Message
from the Commander in Chief, which
is "that you will not push the

war

war into the Enemy's Country be-
defend your own, in which it is rite
to give you every assistance in his
power — (Delivers Sword & Sling)

Children. You tell me that I
only speak from my mouth and
not from my heart in not per-
forming the promise in stopping
the Prisoner. Believe me Children
that I speak so much from the
heart that I remember well what
I said to you which was "if I could
find the Prisoner that I should
return him to you and I repeat
the same still, and have so much
feeling that I shall provide
for the person to whom he was
related.

Children I have nothing more
to say to you, but to desire Mr.
Baby to treat you as well as
he can at present with such things
as is in Store —

Copy from the Minutes
of Chiefdom
Secy.

he had of Captain Maclean, and Since that was the Case he Should kiss and the Lt Grenadiers, the Major told me that he had Capt: Maclean long under his Command, that he knew he could place every Confidence in him, and that he would be Sure to Let your Excellency know that to be the Case. — I hope Your Excellcy will pardon me troubling You with such trifles, but I thought it but Justice to Capt: Maclean to let your Ex.cy know the opinion Major Ross had of him as an Officer. —— I have the Honor to be &c —— Signed Allan Maclean

Niagara 16th Decembr 1782. ——

Sir,

I think it my Duty to inform Your Excellency, that the Six Nations having heard of the attack made by the Rebels on the Shawanese Villages, held a Council of their Principal Chiefs at the Mohawk Village without Acquainting Lieut. Colone Butler or my Self with their Intention — They afterwards Sent a Deputation, desiring to have a Council at Niagara & acquaint me with what they had to Propose that it Might be transmitted to Your Excellency, and they most earnestly entreat and request that You May be pleased to Send them an Answer as Soon as may be possible or Convinient, So that it may arrive here Early in February that being the proper Time for them to act. —— The Substance of their deliberations I have the Honor herewith to transmit to Your Excellency.

The Six Nations have also requested me to Say that they had last Year made Some Proposals to You through Lieut. Col. Butler, to which they had not received any Answer until last June — Lieut. Col. Butler then informed them that he had immediatly Sent their Proposals to Col. Johnson, and that from the best authority he had already told them and now repeated it, that Your Excellency had Sent an Answer to their Proposals immediately to Montreal to Colonel Johnson; tho by Some Mistake it did not arrive here before June. —

I understood Joseph Brandt was not pleased, that the Chiefs had not resolved to go to War at all Events, Since Whatever Might be the Orders Your Excell.cy had Received from the King (which he Said, no doubt Your Excell.cy would consider) that their Situation was very different, & very deplorable, that they have to do with a Treacherous Cruel Enemy, resolved to Destroy the Indians at all Events, that When any of the Kings Troops are taken, they are treated as Prisoners of War, but When Indians were taken, they were immediatly put to Death Cruelly — that he therefore hoped Your Excellency would have the Humanity not to tie up their Hands, but give them leave to act in their own defence. —— The Two Indians that went with the Express to Detroit, had Some Strings of Wampum from the Six Nations to deliver to the Shawanese, to desire them not to be Cast down on this Melancholly Occasion, or to Loose Courage, but to take Example from them who has lost all their Villages — Which Misfortune had only Served to render them More daring and Desperate; and had made them resolve Unanimously to act like Men in order to be Amply revenged

on so Cruel and Wicked a People, and that they hoped that the Shawanese would follow the Example of their Elder Brothers of the Six Nations. — I shall therefore be greatly obliged to Your Excellency to enable me as early as May be Convenient to Communicate to the Six Nations Your Resolutions respecting their Proposals.

Lieut. Col. Butler being so far recovered, as to be able to act as Deputy Superintendent, and finding that great Inconveniences would ensue from the intromissions of Two Persons in that Department; and indeed having seen that Lt. Col. Butler was the Only Person here Equal to that Business, I did More than once request Mr. Dease, not to interfere in the Issues, but finding my Verbal Orders not Complyd with, I gave out a Written order, Copy of which I take the Liberty of transmitting to Your Excellcy, hoping that it may Meet with Your Approbation. —

I also understood that the Artificers in the Indian Department were paid five Shillings a day, and Labourers Each Two Shillings York ℔. day, tho' the Engineer pays only 15 pence York Currency to Artificers, and Ten pence York to the Labourers — I told Col. Butler that I thought this highly improper, and he told me he thought so too — I have therefore desired him to Issue out an Order to the Indian Department that in future, all Labourers and artificers employed by them should in their Payments be on the same footing with those employed by the Engineer — and this order Col. Butler has Executed — this Arrangement I hope will also Meet with Your Excellency's Approbation. — I do not Mean or intend to become an Indian Superintendant, nor do I think it the Most pleasant Employment possible, but I do think it my duty as far as I can to prevent Abuses, knowing Well that in endeavouring to do this, I am complying with Your Excellency's Wishes — I have the Honor to be &c

(Signed) Allan Maclean

Niagara the 28th January 1783. —

Sir

On my Arrival at this Post, I was at some Pains to get every Information I could respecting the different Departments — From Occular Inspection as well as from Observation I conceived an Opinion that there was Something Wrong in the distributing of the Indian Presents, that there was a Want of Exactness in the Whole which was detrimental to the Service — Mr. Dease was then the acting Superintendent, Col. Butler being unable to act for some Time, and tho' I did not, or will not interfere in What ought to be given to the Indians, yet I shall think me Guilty in Duty bound to prevent neglect or Mismanagement, I therefore desired Mr. Dease to send me a Return of What had been Issued to the Indians from the Issuing Store from the 1st October, to the 30th November,

which

here, to repack and repickle the Pork, as we have plenty of Salt, the distress lies in the want of Barrels, and that is an Evil to which there is neither remedy or resource, having already used every Rum Barrel or Puncheon on the Ground the Merchants gave me all they had long ago. This is a matter of so much importance, that I thought my duty to Communicate the same to Your Excellency as soon as possible, and I am greatly afraid, in spite of Every Effort, that a Quantity of it will soon be unfit for use, Especially as the Warm weather is at hand."

Inclosures to Brig.r Gen.l Maclean's letter of 16.th Dec.r 1782 See page 66

Niagara Decem.r 12.th 1782

At a meeting of some of the principal Warriors of the Six Nations — Brigadier General Maclean and the other Gentlemen present, as Yesterday.

Sioquando then spoke and said, Brother, you desired us to meet you this morning at this great Council Fire, to hear your Answer to our Speech Yesterday, and we are all assembled ready to hear you.

Brigadier General Maclean then spoke as follows.

Brothers — I thank the great Spirit for giving us this opportunity of meeting together this morning, at this great Council Fire, lighted here by your late Friend and Brother, Sir William Johnson, by order of the King your Father: and it gives me pleasure that it has continued to burn bright since that time, and hope that by your continuing to act a proper part, we shall not only preserve it, but make it burn still brighter; and my Orders are from your Brother the General, that nothing shall be wanting on my part for that purpose. —

Brothers — You acquainted me Yesterday with your great uneasiness, on account of the misfortunes of your younger Brothers, the Shawanese; and that You had held a Council in consequence of it — We have not, as yet had any of the particulars; and you know that, in such cases, the first Report generally make such matters a great deal worse than they really are: and I have not a doubt but I shall very soon be able to give you a much more favourable account of the situation of your younger Brothers, the Shawanese. — Your being desired to cease from going to War by your Brother the General was for very good reasons, which tended to your advantage; but he repeatedly requested that you should send out frequent Scouts, to be upon your guard and not

not allow yourselves to be surprized; and had the Shawanese followed that good advice, the Enemy would not have surprized them. The reason His Excellency had for wishing you not to go to War, was fully explained to you, at his desire, by Lieut. Colonel Butler. I shall again repeat them — Last Fall there were certain accounts that great numbers of the Rebel Inhabitants were dis-satisfied with Congress for refusing such generous offers, as were made them by your Father the King; and many of them refused to pay their taxes on that account, and His Excellency knowing that most of the people who were desirous of Peace, would be the first People you might hurt in going to War; He therefore desired you to cease hostilities, and keep out Scouts to watch the Motions of the Enemy, which He has repeatedly recommended to you (well knowing the treachery of your Enemies) in order that they might be discovered before they got into your Country; and He particularly Recommended to the Commanding Officers at the different Posts, that they might give you the assistance which he then promised you, as I now do, by His Orders.

Brothers — Had the Shawanese kept out Scouts as they were advised to do, they could not have been Surprized; and I now recommend it to your particular care, that you will keep out Scouts to watch the motions of the Enemy; there will then be no Danger of your being in the same situation with your younger Brothers, the Shawanese; and should the Rebels attempt to come into your Country, in that case, I have orders to sharpen your Ax, and not permit it to become dull.

Brothers — I shall endeavour to supply your wants as much as possible, and it is my orders so to do; And I can assure you that it is not the Generals fault, or any neglect of mine, that you have not been supplied as usual — the Presents intended for you arriving so late from England, made it impossible for His Excellency to order them up sooner; and that nothing but the contrary Winds has prevented the Ling Vessels, which I had ordered to return from Carleton Island with the remainder of the Presents destined for your use, could prevent me from being able to supply all your wants. — With respect to your situation being worse than ours, in some degree, that is very true: but in general, it is not so — There are now Men upon this ground, whose situation is exactly similar to yours, with respect to the Rebels; and in some degree, worse; Many of their Friends have been put to death, and they have been obliged to take banishment, forsake their Country, and leave all their property behind them. — Brothers — Your situation now is as good as it has been for some time past: You are still strong, and I have orders to tell you, that you shall be well supported, provided you don't allow yourselves to be surprized — The Enemy cannot come into any of your Villages easily, without being discovered — They live at a great distance from you, and if you act agreeable to the Character you have hitherto supported, it is not in their power to procure two days March with a Body of Troops, without your discovering them: And in that case, I doubt not but, with our mutual Strength, we shall be able to make them pay dear for the attempt.

Brothers — I must request and entreat that you will not follow the Examples of Barbarity and cruelty committed by your Enemies, on your Women and Children; as I am sure it would be very displeasing to your great Father the King, and to your Brother the General; and I believe that your great success against your Enemy, must convince you that the humanity shewn by most of your Warriors to their Women and Children, hundreds of whom you have brought in Prisoners, is much more pleasing to the Great Spirit above, than the

the Cruelty committed by your Enemies, who improperly call themselves Christians, and as it has been constantly recommended to you, by your great Father the King, not to bring a blush in his face by acting contrary to his method of Fighting, by killing Women and Children; I therefore hope you will still continue to act with the same humanity. ——— I shall certainly let the Commander in Chief know your desire of having a number of Red-Coats to join you early in the Spring, in order to carry the War into the Enemies Country, and prevent them from coming into yours; and I doubt not but I shall have his Answer before the Season of the Year will admit of any movement of that kind to take place, and I shall acquaint you with his Sentiments. ———

## Extract of a Speech delivered to Brig.r General Maclean by the Principal Chiefs and Warriors of the Six Nation Indians assembled in Council at Niagara, the 11th December 1782. ——— Tieguanda Speaker.

We thank the great spirit for this opportunity of meeting the General and the other Officers here assembled on this particular Occasion, and it gives us the Power of laying before Him and Colonel Butler, the results of our deliberations in a late Council of the Chiefs held at one of our Villages in Consequence of Intelligence we received from our Brothers the Shawanese informing us of their late misfortune, their lower Town having been cut off by the perfidious Cruel Rebels, at a time when they and we were forbid to go to War, and directed to cease hostilities by the great General of our Brother the King of England, and upon our agreeing to obey the Orders of the General, the perfidious Rebels have taken the advantage of our Inactivity, and have come like Thieves in the Night, when the Shawanese Warriors were out at their hunting Grounds, surrounded one of their Towns and murdered all the Women and Children. We therefore think it proper to acquaint you, that you may let the great General know that we shall remain no longer idle and see our Brethren and People destroyed by these Cruel Rebels, since the Fate they have met with, may be ours next, if we do not go to War to prevent it. We therefore desire that you will request the great General, in our Name, to assist us heartily in sharping our Axe.

We have already mentioned unto you the Cruelties committed by the Rebels upon our Younger Brothers the Shawanese, and we are persuaded there is no Reliance to be had on the Faith or Promise of the Rebels, whose unparalled Cruelty lately destroyed the poor, innocent Moravian Indians, their near Neighbours, who never went to War against them, or any other People — yet under the Cloak of Friendship they murdered them in Cold Blood, and reduced their Bones to Ashes that the Murder might not be discovered.

In the Year 1779 when the Rebels attacked the Villages of the Six Nations their Cruelty was equally great, for at the Onondago Town (of which Town one of the Principal Chiefs) they put to death all the Women and Children, excepting some of the Young Women whom they carried away for the use of their Soldiers, and were afterwards put to Death in a more shameful manner — yet these Rebels call themselves Christians. We have been so often deceived by the Rebels that we can no longer trust to their Words, and we find by sad Experience that the Enemy profit by our laying still and following the advice of the General — We are therefore resolved that in future we will act upon their own principle, and shew them no Lenity or Mercy, and we hope for assistance from the great

General

General, and that he will not find fault with us for following the Example of the Rebels. And tho' we have hitherto, in general refrained from retaliating their Cruelties except in the Instance of Colonel Crawford, the principal Agent in the Murder of the Moravians, and He was burned with Justice and according to our Custom, Yet we make no doubt the Rebels will imagine that our not going to War proceeds from Fear— We therefore purpose to send a Flag to them, to acquaint them that we shall in future follow the Example set us by themselves, seeing it is their Intention to destroy the Indians and possess themselves of their Country.—

Niagara 5th May 1783.

Sir.

On the 3d Instant three Oneida Indians arrived here express from General Washington from Newburgh, with a Letter to me from the General, which Letter with its several inclosures, together with a Copy of my Letter to Genl Washington; I have the honor to transmit to your Excellency, hoping, and trusting that you may not disapprove of what I have written to General Washington, by the return of this Express. As to Consiss the Letter is a long one; but I apprehended, that it was my Duty to Vindicate the Indians from the many Gross and False aspersions laid to their Charge, and in doing this, that I should only be complying with your Excellency's wishes and intentions respecting the Indians.— Colonel Butler tells me he has wrote to Sir John requesting earnestly that he would come up immediately, I have granted leave of absence to Brigade Major Dunbar to settle some private family affairs. This I granted the more readily, as I had no use for him here, & might be easily spared.

I have the honor to be &c.
Signed Allan Maclean

Inclosures to the foregoing Letter—

Extract of a Letter from Genl Haldimand to Sir Guy Carleton. dated Quebec 17th Feb. 1783.

"I have very lately received Letters from Brigadier General M'Lean commanding in the Upper Country accompanied by a Speech from the Six Nation Indians so strongly expressive of their resentment at and determination to retaliate the late barbarity committed by the Virginians in the total destruction of a Shawanese Settlement (Standing Stone Village) and the indiscriminate massacre of all its Inhabitants, that I think it my duty to the King's Service to communicate their resolution to you for the purpose of representing to General Washington the fatal consequences which must unavoidably follow the unwarrantable advantage which has been taken of my restraining (in consequence of Orders from the King) those the Light Troops and Indians from offensive War in that Quarter. I have employed every argument in my power to suggest, to dissuade the Indians from their purpose at the same time I cannot passively look on and see their Country ravaged their Women and Children murdered for their attachment to the loyal Cause I have therefore promised to assist them with Troops and by every means in my power to support the

recovery

Sir Niagara 16 Decr 1782.

230

I think it my duty to inform your Excellency that the Six Nations having heard of the attack made by the Rebells on the Shawanese Village, sent a Councell of their General Chiefs, and Warriors to that Village, without acquainting either Colonel Butler or myself with their intentions. They afterwards sent a deputation, desiring to have a Councell at Niagara to acquaint me with what they had to propose, that it might be transmitted to your Excellency; and by most Earnestly intreat, and request, that you may be pleased to send them an Answer as soon as may be possible; or Convenient, so that it may arrive here early in February, that being the Proper time for them to act. The Substance of their deliberations I have the honor herewith to transmit to your Excellency.

The Six Nations have also requested me to say, that they had last year made some Proposals to you through Chief Colonel Butler, to which they had not received any Answer Until last June. Chief Colonel Butler then informed them, that he had immediatly sent their Proposals to Colonel Johnson; and that from the best Authority, he had Already told them, and now repeated it, that your Excellency had sent an answer to their Proposals, immediatly to Montreal to Colonel Johnson; tho by some Mistake it did not arrive here before June.

I understood Joseph Brandt was not pleased, that the Chiefs had not resolved to go to War at all Events, since whatever might be the orders your Excellency had received from the King (which he said, no doubt your Excellency would Comply with) that their Situation was very different, & very deplorable

General Haldimand.

that

That they have to do with a treacherous Cruel Enemy, resolved to destroy the Indians at all Events, That when any of the Kings troops are taken they are treated as prisoners of War, but when Indians were taken they were immediatly put to death Cruelly. That he therefore hoped your Excellency would have the Humanity not to tie up their Hands, but give them Leave to Act in their own defence.

The Two indians that went with the Express to Detroit, had some strings of Wampum from the Six Nations, to deliver to the Shawanese, to desire them not to be cast down on this melancholly Occasion, or to loose Courage, but to take Example from them, who had lost all their Villages; which misfortune, had only served to render them more daring, and desperate; and had made them resolve Unanimously, to Act like men, in order to be amply revenged on so Cruel and Wicked a People; and that they hoped, that the Shawanese would follow the Example of their Elder Brothers of the Six Nations.

I shall therefore be greatly obliged to your Excellency, to Enable me as early as may be Convenient to Communicate to the Six nations your resolutions respecting their Proposalls.

Lieut Colonel Butler Being so far recovered, as to be able to Act as deputy Superintendant, and finding that great inconveniences would insue, from the intromissions of two persons in that department; and indeed having seen that Lieut Colonel Butler was the only person here Equal to that Bussines, I did more than once request Mr Deane not to interfere in the Affairs, but finding my Verbal Orders not Complied with, I gave out a written Order. Copy of which I take the Liberty of transmitting to your Excellency hoping that it may meet with your Approbation.

I also understood, that the Artificers in the

Indian

Indian department were paid 3 Shillings a day, and
Labourers, Either two Shillings York Cury a day —, the
the Engineer pay only fifteen pence York Currency 231
to Artificers, and ten pence York Currency to Labourers
I told Colonel Bullen that I thought this highly improper
and he told me he thought so too, I have therefore directed
him to Issue a certain Order to the Indian department
that in future, all Labourers and Artificers employed
by them; should in their payments be on the same
footing with those employed by the Engineers; and
this order Colonel Bullen has Issued, this Arrangement
I hope will also meet with your Excellency's Approbation

I do not mean or intend to become an Indian
Superintendant, nor do I think it the most pleasant
Employment possible, but I do think it my duty
(as far as I can) to prevent abuses, knowing we do
not in Endeavouring to do this, I am Complying with
your Excellencys Wishes.

I have the Honor to be with great respect
Your Excellencys
Most Humble and
most obedient Servant
Allan Maclean

1782.

Extract
Brigad.r General Maclean Comman.d
at Niagara, of the 16.th Dec.r 1782
Read the 1.st February 1783 inclos.g
a Speech of the Chiefs of the Six Nations
& the Brigadiers answer thereto.

No. 2.

Ind.d C. No.s. fol. 66.

Copy of the Letter inclosed & Lord Shelburne
in a Letter of this date No. 2 this Office
of this day — the 29.th June 1

Copy of the Letter dated the 29.th July.

Extract of a Speech delivered to Major [illegible] by the
Principal Chiefs and Warriors of the Six Nations Indians assembled at
Niagara, the 11th December 1782. Teaguandar Speaker

We thank the great Spirit for this Opportunity of meeting the General and the other Officers here assembled on this particular Occasion, as it gives us the Pleasure of shaking Hands and Colonel Butler, the result of our deliberations in a full Council of the Chiefs & some of our Warriors we Consequence of Intelligence we received from our Brothers the Shawanese in Conjunction with their late allies the Delawares Pennsylvania Banditti of the most Cruel Rebels, at a Time when they and we were forced by force of Arms, and Directed to cease Hostilities by the great General of our Brother the King of England, and upon our agreeing to obey the Orders of his Envoys, the perfidious Rebels have taken the advantage of our Security, and Treacherously Murdered one of their Towns and murdered all the Women and Children, We therefore think it proper to acquaint you, that you may be the greater Security that we shall remain, we have sent Belts and Strings of Wampum to our Brothers and People employed by these Cruel Rebels, since the last they Experienced with, may Convince, and if you do not get all we Expect at present it. We therefore desire that you will acquaint the great General in our Name, to assist us thereby in changing our Ax.

We have already ascertained unto you, the Cruelties committed by these Rebels upon our Women & Children the Shawanese Town we destroyed all we could find in the Houses to be shot or Scalped or Burned of the Rebels, whose Corpses also Carefully destroyed the poor, innocent Moravian Indians, their own People, who never went to War against them, or any other People yet under the Pretence they murdered them in Cold Blood, and reduced their Bones to Ashes that their Crimes might not be discovered.

For the Year 1779 when these Rebels attacked the Villages of the Indians their Cruelty was equally great, for at the Cayuga Town of which Sent one of the Chiefs) they put to Death all the Women and Children, excepting some of the young Women they carried away for the use of their Soldiers, & were afterwards put to Death in a more shameful manner. Yet these Rebels call themselves Christians — We have been so often deceived by the Rebels that we can no longer trust to their Words, and we find by said Experience that the Enemy forget by not staying still & following the advice of the General. We are therefore resolved that in future, we will act as we think our Principle, and for us them as Family or Slaves, and we hope for Assistance from the great General, and that He will not send Soldiers with us for following the Example of the Rebels — And tho we have hitherto, in general, refrained from retaliating their Cruelties except in the Instance of Colonel Crawford, the principal Agent in the Murder of the Moravians, and He was burned with Justice & according to our Custom. Yet we make no doubt the Rebels will imagine that our not going to War proceeds from Fear — We therefore purpose to send a Flag to them, to acquaint them that we shall

we

in future follow the Examples set them by themselves, seeing it is their Intention to destroy the Indians and possess themselves of their Country.

Extract of a Speech delivered by
the Six Nations in Council at
Niagara — 11th December 1782

Copy of His Lord & W. Townshend
of 7th May 1783. by Halifax
Rept. by the Sub Sec. 12 Sept. June

Niagara Decemr. 12th.

At a meeting of some of the principal [illegible] the Six Nations ——— Brigr. General Maclean and [illegible] Gentlemen present, as Yesterday.

Tioguando then spoke, and said, Brother, you desired us to meet you this morning at this great Council Fire, to hear your Answer to our Speech Yesterday, and we are all assembled ready to hear you.

Brigr. General Maclean then spoke as follows.

Brothers ——— I thank the great Spirit for giving us this opportunity of meeting together this morning, at this great Council Fire, lighted here by your late Friend and Brother, Sir William Johnson, by order of the King your Father: and it gives me pleasure that it has continued to burn bright since that time, and hope that by our continuing to act a proper part, we shall not only preserve it, but make it burn still brighter: and my Orders are from your Brother the General, that nothing shall be wanting on my part for that purpose ———

Brothers —— You acquainted me Yesterday with your great uneasiness, on account of the misfortunes of your younger Brothers, the Shawanese; and that you had held a Council in consequence of it —— We have not, as yet, had any of the particulars; and you know that, in such cases, the first Report generally make such matters a great deal worse than they really are: and I have not a doubt but I shall very soon be able to give you a much more favourable account of the situation of you younger Brothers, the Shawanese. Your being desired to cease from going to War by your Brother the General, was for very good reasons, which tended to your advantage: but he repeatedly requested that you should send out frequent Scouts, to be upon your guard, and

and not allow yourselves to be surprized: and had the Shawanese followed that good advice, the Enemy would not have surprized them. The reason His Excellency had for wishing you not to go to War, was fully explained to you, at his desire, by Lieut. Colonel Butler. I shall again repeat them — Last Fall there were certain accounts that great numbers of the Rebel Inhabitants were dis-satisfied with Congress for refusing such generous offers, as were made them by your Father the King; and many of them refused to pay their taxes on that account, and His Excellency knowing, that most of the People who were desirous of Peace, would be the first People you might hurt in going to War: He therefore desired you to cease hostilities, and keep out Scouts to watch the motions of the Enemy; which He has repeatedly recommended to you (well knowing the treachery of your Enemies) in order that they might be discovered before they got into your Country: and He particularly Recommended to the Commanding Officers at the different Posts, that they might give you the assistance which he then promised you, as I now do, by His Orders.

Brothers — Had the Shawanese kept out Scouts as they were advised to do, they could not have been surprized; and I now recommend it to your particular care, that you will keep out Scouts to watch the motions of the Enemy; there will then be no danger of your being in the same situation with your younger Brothers, the Shawanese; and should the Rebels attempt to come into your Country, in that case, I have Orders to sharpen your Ax, and not permit it to become dull. Brothers — I shall endeavour to supply your wants as much as possible, and it is my orders so to do; And I can assure you that it is not the Generals' fault, or any neglect of mine, that you have not been supplied as usual — The Presents intended for you arriving so late from England

England, made it impossible for His Excellency to order them up sooner; and that nothing but the contrary Winds has prevented the two Vessels, which I had ordered to return from Carleton Island with the remainder of the Presents destined for your use, could prevent me from being able to supply all your wants. With respect to your situation being worse than Ours; in some degree, that is very true, — but in general, it is not so — There are now upon this ground, whose situation is exactly similar to yours, with respect to the Rebels; and in some degree, worse; Many of their Friends have been put to death, and they have been obliged to take banishment, forsake their Country, and leave all their property behind them. Brothers — Your situation now is as good as it has been for some time past: You are still strong, and I have orders to tell you, that you shall be well supported; provided you don't allow yourselves to be surprized — The Enemy cannot come into any of your Villages easily, without being discovered — They live at a great distance from you, and if you act agreable to the Character you have hitherto supported, it is not in their power to proceed two days march with a Body of Troops, without your discovering them: And in that case, I doubt not but, with our mutual Strength, we shall be able to make them pay dear for the attempt.

Brothers — I must request and entreat, that you will not follow the Examples of Barbarity and cruelty committed by your Enemies, on your Women and Children; as I am sure it would be very displeasing to your great Father the King, and to your Brother the General: and I believe that your great success against your Enemy, must convince you that the humanity shewn by most of your Warriors to their Women and Children, hundreds of whom you have brought in Prisoners, is much more pleasing to the Great Spirit

dear

Entd in Book C N.o 1 / Fol. 76

# Brig.r General Maclean's Answer to the Chiefs of the six Nations, at Niagara Decem.r 12.th 1782

Indors'd in the Brigad.r Letter of 16.th Dec.r 1782 — Read 4.th Febr: 83. —

Copy of this dout indors'd Lord Sidney's Letter of 14.th Febr: N.o 25. by Dalesk.p

Published by the Bull-dog Pa.gh Gaz.e

RECTO SIDE OF FOLIO
234 WHICH IS FOLDED
IS BLANK.

Niagara Decem.r 11.th 1792 109.

At a Meting of the principal Chiefs and Warriors of the Six Nations —— Present —, Lieut. Col.o Butler and Mr. Brase Deputy Agents —

Brig.r General Maclean
Lieut.t Colonel Dundas

Capt.s
- Mompesson — Kings Reg.t
- Forbes, Code — 34.th Regim.t
- Powell, Fire — Ind: Departm.t

Lieut.s
- Ternot — Roy.l Artillery
- Arden — 34.th Ditto
- Bowen
- Beckstider
- Young — Ind.n Dep.t

Chiefs
- Tioguanda, a Speaker of the Onandagoes
- Capt.n Brant, Aaron — Mohawks
- Osecononda — Oneidas

Tioguanda, a Speaker for the six Nations; spoke as follows with a Belt.

We thank the great Spirit for this opportunity of meting the General and the other Officers here assembled on this particular occasion, as it gives us an opportunity of laying before Him and Colonel Butler, the result of our deliberations in a late Council of the Chiefs of the six Nations held at one of our Villages, in consequence of Intelligence we received from our Brothers, the Shawanese; informing us of their late great misfortune — As we are deeply interested in hearing that the lower Shawanese Town has been cut off by the perfidious cruel Rebels, at a time when They and We were forbid to go to War, and to cease from all Hostilities, at the particular desire of the great General of our Brother the King of England; and upon our agreeing to obey the orders of your General, the perfidious Rebels have taken the advantage of our security and inactivity, and have come like thieves in the Night, when the Shawanese Warriors were all out at

their

their hunting grounds, surrounded one of their Towns and murdered all the Women and Children; We therefore think it proper to acquaint You, that you may let the great General know, that we can remain no longer idle and see our Brethren and People destroyed by these cruel Rebels — Since the Fate they now have met with may be our turn next, if we do not go to War; We therefore hope that you will request the great General, in our Name, to assist us heartily in sharping our Ax.

Gave a Belt

We have already mentioned unto you the cruelties committed by the Rebels upon our younger Brothers, the Shawanese, and we are persuaded that there is no reliance to be had on the Faith or Promises of the Rebels, whose unparalleled cruelties have lately destroyed the poor innocent Moravian Indians their near Neighbours, and who never went to War against them or any other Person; yet under the Cloak of Friendship, they murdered them in cold blood, and afterwards reduced their Bones to Ashes that the murder might not be discovered.

In the year 1779, when the Rebels attacked the Villages of the six Nations, the cruelty of the Rebels was equally great; for when they came to the Onandago Town (of which I was one of the principal Chiefs) They put to death all the Women and Children, excepting some of the young Women that they carried away for the use of their Soldiers, and were put to death in a more shameful and scandalous manner; Yet these Rebels calls themselves Christians. We have been so often and so repeatedly deceived by the Rebels, that we can no longer trust their Words; and we look upon ourselves to be much in the same predicament with our

Brothers

Brothers, the Shawanese; And that we may suffer soon by our idleness and inactivity; as we find by sad Experience, that the Enemy profit by our laying still and following the advice of the General —— And we also labour under the greatest disadvantages in not being supplied as usual with Powder and Shot, and other needful Articles, necessary to go to War with — We are likewise in a much more disagreeable situation than the Kings Troops: for if they are taken Prisoners, the Rebels don't put them to death: But we have no mercy to expect, if taken, as they will put us to death immediately; and will not even spare our Women and Children — And while we remain idle, the Rebels can easily march into our Villages: whereas if we take a more active part, we might prevent them, by carrying the War into their own Country — We should prevent them from Murdering us in the Night, and acting with so much cruelty and inhumanity; for tho' they call themselves Christians, they are more cruel than the Indians who are not so —— We are therefore resolved, that in future we shall act on their own principles, and shew them no lenity or mercy: and we hope for assistance from the great General, and that he will not find fault with us for following the example of the Rebels: and altho' we have hitherto, in general, refrained from retaliating their cruelties, except in the instance of Colonel Crawford the principal Agent in the murder of the innocent Moravians: and he was burnt with justice, and according to our customs; Yet we make no doubt but the Rebels will imagine, that our not going to War proceeds from Fear: We therefore mean to send a Flag to the Rebels and to acquaint them, that we shall in future follow the

Examples

Examples set us by themselves : and desire that the great General might be acquainted, that they expect his assistance against their Enemies the Rebels, whom they were sure had resolved to destroy all the Indians.

Brig.r General Maclean then spoke, by Colonel Butler as Interpreter, and told them that he heard what they had said, and would think of it, and give them an answer next morning, therefore desired them to meet him again for that purpose.

A Speech delivered by the Principal Chiefs of the six Nations, at Niagara Decem.r 11.th 1792

Inclosed in Mr Bunbury's Letter of the 16.th D.o

In the Court of Commissioners of the United States

The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
Claimant
vs
The State of Connecticut
Defendant

Interrogatories

To be administered to the Right Hon^ble William Earl of Stirling Major General &c to be produced sworn and examined on the part and behalf of the Claimant in the Cause now depending before the said Court.

I Do you know a Number of people commonly called the Susquehannah Company or any and which of them? Declare the Truth and your knowledge therein.

II^nd Do you know any thing of any Deed or Deeds said to have been executed to the said Company or any and which of them, by

58

By certain Indians and what Indians of the six Nations or Iroquois, about the year One thousand seven hundred and fifty four, or at some other time and when? Declare all you know concerning the same.

III. Do you know anything relative to the Execution of the said Deed, in what manner the same were obtained and by whom; more particularly whether the same Deed or either of them were procured or executed openly and at a publick Treaty or in what other Manner and at what other place? & Relate fully and Circumstantially all you know concerning the same.

IV.th Do you know of any other Matter or thing that may tend to the benefit or Advantage of the Claimant in this Cause? if yea, declare the same as fully as if you had been thereunto particularly examined.

H. Osborne Sol.r for Claim.t

Robert Yates

Peter W. Yates

II

58

60

Interrogatories

The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania Claimants. v. The State of Connecticut, Defendant.

you shall, according to the best of your Skill and Knowledge, truly, faithfully and without Partiality to any or either of the Parties in this Cause take the Examination and deposition of the right honorable William Earl of Stirling the Witness produced and examined by Virtue of the Commission hereunto annexed, upon the Interrogatories now produced and left with you. so help you God.

Albany the 19 Decem. 1782. we do certify that previous to the Examination of the right honorable William Earl of Stirling upon the Interrogatories above mentioned, did administer to each other respectively the above Oath.

Robert Yates

Peter W. Yates

The Deposition of the right honorable William Earl of Stirling a Major General in the Armies of the united States produced, sworn and examined on the nineteenth day of December in the Year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and eighty two, and in the seventh year of the Independence of the said States at his Head-Quarters in the third Ward of the City of Albany in the County of Albany and State of New-York by virtue of a Commission issued out of a Court of Commissioners and Judges appointed by Virtue of the ninth Article of the Confederation of the said States to us Robert Yates and Peter W. Yates together with Robert Van Rensselaer and Walter Livingston Esquires directed for the Examination of the said Earl of Stirling in a Controversy subsisting between the State of Pennsylvania Complainant and the State of Connecticut Defendant

We the said Robert Yates and Peter W. Yates two of the said Commissioners having first taken the Oaths annexed to the said Commission, and having taken and produced the Interrogatories hereto annexed, and having read the Title thereof to the said Earl of Stirling did administer to him the following Oath to wit — "You are true answer to make to all such questions as shall be asked you upon these Interrogatories, without favour or affection to either Party, and therein you shall speak the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth — so help You God."

The

The right honorable William Earl of Stirling a Major General in the Armies of the united States aged fifty six Years and upwards at present resid in the City of Albany in the County of Albany and State of New York being produced, sworn and exa mined, deposeth as follows —

In primis to the 1.st Interrogatory This Deponent saith that he has heard of a number of People commonly called the Susquehannah Company resid in or chiefly belonging to Connecticut, but having for many Years been out of the way of acquiring such knowledge he does not recollect their name except that of Colonel Elisphalet Dyer whom he believes to be one of the principal Members, having frequently understood so from him in Conversation

II. To the second Interrogatory this deponent saith That in the summer of the year 1754 he was at Albany and present at a Congress of the Governors and delegates from all the then Colonies on the Conti nent from Virginia Eastward There besides other Busines to meet the Chief Sachems and Warriors of the Iriquois and other Indian Nations then in alliance with us That on this occasion several hundred Indians ap peared and went into treaty with the Congress for renewing their antient alliances as well as for other purposes; while this business was going on the Delegates of Pennsylvania and the Agents of the Proprietors of that Province entered pub lickly and with the approbation of the Congress into

into a treaty with the six Nations and some of the Indians inhabiting the Susquehannah for a certain Tract of Country extending westerly from the Susquehannah which treaty ended in a Sale and Purchase of the said Country and deeds were executed and delivered and the Consideration consisting of money and goods paid and delivered in the Presence of the Agents and Delegates from Pennsylvania, several of the delegates from other Colonies and the principal Sachems and Warriors of the abovementioned Indians; That this deponent was present at these transactions and saw the Consideration money and goods divided among the Indians. That when the Congress at Albany was near breaking up and most of the principal Sachems and Warriors of the Indians gone home, this deponent saw at Albany the said Colonel Dyer, and another Gentleman from Connecticut whose name he believes was Seymour or Edwards That said Colonel Dyer being an old acquaintance, he and this deponent soon fell into Conversation and said Colonel Dyer among other things frankly told him their business at that place was to obtain a Grant from the Indians of Lands on the Susquehannah. That this deponent suggested to him that he thought they were too late; that the Indians of importance were chiefly gone home and that during the sitting of the Congress there the Indians had conveyed the Lands he seemed to want to the Proprietors of Pennsylvania, that he this deponent had seen the deeds executed and the Consideration paid and delivered and

divided

divided among the Nations. Thyre said Colonel 66
Dyer then said he must have recourse to his
friend Lydius - That a day or two afterwards
said Colonel Dyer informed this deponent that
said Lydius had done his business for him, and
had obtained the deed he wanted. That this
deponent asked him who had signed & executed
it? Said Colonel Dyer replyed Indians enough and
I am Content. On enquiry this deponent found,
That said Lydius had for some days (subsequent
to the said purchase made by the Proprietors of
Pennsylvania) privately entertained at his house
several of those Indians who remained in Albany
whose names this deponent does not recollect, nor
of what Nation but that they were men of no
Importance in their Nations, and that from these
the said deed was obtained in favour of said
Colonel Dyer and his associates, since called the
Susquehannah Company

III. To the third Interrogatory this deponent saith
that he does not know or recollect ever to have
heard of any other Indian Deed to the Susquehan-
nah Company than the one before mentioned, the
Execution of which he believes is truly related in
his answer to the preceding Interrogatory. That it
certainly was not executed openly at that or any
other public treaty to his knowledge, for he
remained at Albany till the Indians retired to
their respective Nations, & till Congress had
broke up and were dispersed, and he thinks
no

no public treaty could have happened while he was there without his knowledge

IV. To the Fourth Interrogatory this deponent saith that he recollects nothing more at present, but if he did, he should as freely have revealed it in favour of the one side as the other. Sp. Sterling

Robert Yates

Peter W. Yates

The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania Claimt.
and
The State of Connecticut Defendant.

Albany 19. Decem. 1782. At the Execution of a Commission for the Examination of the right honorable William Earl of Stirling a Witness in this Cause, the within Deposition was produced & shewn to the said Deponent and by him deposed unto at the Time of his Examination to the several Interrogatories therein referred to, before us

Robert Yates

Peter W. Yates

The United States in Congress assembled To the Honble Robert Yates, Esquire One of the Judges of the Supreme Court of the State of New-York, The Honble Robert Van Rensselaer Esquire, Peter Yates and Walter Livingston Esquires, Greeting Know ye that we in Confidence of your prudence and fidelity, have appointed you, and by these presents do give unto you, or any two or more of you, full power and Authority, diligently to examine The Right Honble William Earl of Stirling a Major General in our Armies upon certain interrogatories to be exhibited to you on the part of the State of Pennsylvania Complainant, as on the part of the State of Connecticut Defendant, or either of them; And thereupon we Command you, or any two or more of you, that at certain days and places to be appointed by you for that purpose, you do cause the said Earl of Stirling to come before you, and then and there examine him the said Earl of Stirling upon the said interrogatories, on his corporal Oath first taken before you, or any two or more of you upon the Holy Evangelists, and that you do reduce such his Examinations and reduce it into Writing; and when you shall have so taken it you are to send the same to us in our Court of Commissioners and Judges appointed by Virtue of the ninth Article of the Confederation of the United States, to hear and finally determine the Controversy subsisting between the said States of Pennsylvania and Connecticut whereby soever it shall then be, closed up and under your Seals, or the Seals of any two or more of you, distinctly and plainly set, together with the said interrogatories, and this Writ Witness the Honble William Whipple Esquire President of our said Court at Trenton in the State of New Jersey the Fourth Day of December in the year of our Lord One thousand seven hundred and Eighty two and of our Independence the Seventh.

Wm Whipple

6.9/70

No. 13.
Commissions for taking Depositions
to be used in the Courts of the
United States.

By Order of the Court
John Nailor Clerk

The deposition of [illegible]
Commissioner appointed by the
Circuit Court of the United States
for the District of [illegible]
to take depositions
[illegible]
[illegible]

Sir -

Niagara 24 [illegible]

Herewith I inclose an Account of the quantity of Indian Cloathing that has been Borrowed from the different Merchants here, to Enable Colonel Butler to make up a kind of a portonment of Cloathing for the six Nations for this Winter; in Order that His Excellency, may know the Quantity that will Necessary to Order up here early in the Spring to Repay the Merchants, And I must request that you will be so Obliging as not to let it be forgot as being punctual with Keeping our Credit with the Merchants On a future Occasion, And they have behaved so well Now, that they merit some attention Colonel Butler Informs me that there might be a considerable Reduction, in the Number of Officers & Followers that has been Employed here in the Indian Department at least to the Amount of 12 or 14 Dollars per day and he is to make a Statement of this & send upon Paper soon. He is however Mortified that the two last Accounts he has sent down since Coll Johnson left this, has not been settled nor have his bills been paid.

Lieut Brass formerly Dep. Brass, now Employed to Prepare Materials for Building a Corn & Saw Mill; says that he will Undertake to Compleat the Dam, and finish the Mills, at the Expence of £500 York Currency; or to be allowed so much a day, as they during the time he is Employed, as he is to be the Principal Workman himself -

I am with Regard Sir
Your most Humble &
most obedient Servant
Allan Maclean

Capt Mathews -

turn over

The Indians that go down from Jenes
with Letters have requested that they may go
all the way to Montreal, that they may
Carry back His Excellency's Answer to the
Six Nations On Account of the deliberations
they had here, and they desire me to request
that His Excellency may not Keep them
too long but they may be permitted to
return soon With his Answer

A. M.-L.:

From
Brig.r General Maclean
Comd.g at Niagara, Resp.g Matters
of the Ds.t 1st Decem.r 1782, Rec.d
the 1st Febr.y 83 — inclosing acco.t
of Indian Goods borrowed from the
Merchants at that Post

Extract of a Letter from Capt. Jos. Brant to Sir Johnson Bart.
Dated Niagara Decr. 25th 1782.

49

"I have been very uneasy since we had the News of the Shawanese misfortune who fell in the hands of the white Savages Virginians and did alarm the five Nations greatly and made them to hold Councils about the matter & made Speeches to the General but badly translated into English. We the Indians wishes to know the blow returned on the Enemy as early as possible, but I am afraid it will again be but trifling affair when our Speech gets below which is too often the case, which will be very vexatious affair, because we think the Rebels will ruin us at last if we go on as we do one year after another, doing nothing only Destroying the Governments goods & they Crying all the while for the great expence so we are in as it were between two Fires, I am sure am willing as Hyman can be. Let us have a vigorous Expedition early in the Spring. Let it be great or small one, let us not hang our heads between our knees and be looking

To Sir John Johnson

Niag.

there, I beg of you dont tell us to go Hunt Deer & find yourselves Shoes. because we shall soon forget the War, that way for we are gone too far that way already against the Rebels to be doing other things. I have changed my mind since my arrivel here, you know I was very sparing the Indians Scalps to be struck off. I am wishing now to be done so. for if you do leave few in the Department you will save so much Money Goverment may be able again to give the Warriors proper Cloathings as they formerly had— You never saw such confusion in the Department, nothing equal to it at present—"

"My Complaint in the ear Still bad. but I hope I Shall be able to get out this Winter to Mohawk River. I will try to be at Oswego in thirty days time a little more. I am as much forward to go to war as Ever did. but I am not so well contented as I used to be formerly because the Warriors are in want, they are treated worse & worse instead of better, I Shall tell you the particulars if you should want to know why I write you so."——

Extract of Capt. Jos Brants
Letter to Sir John Johnson
Dated Niagara Dec. 25th. 1782

Jan.y 21 1783.

Capt.n M.c Donald

3.d Dest.

# Inventory of Indian Councils held at Detroit &c ——

| Year and Date | Marked the Parcel | No. in the Council | At what place assembled | Purport of the proceedings |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1778 June 14 | A | No 1 | Detroit | Lieut. Gov. Hamilton's Speech to the Ottawas, Chippeways, Hurons, Pottawatamies, Delawares, Shawanese, Miamis, & several other Tribes, informing them of Gen. Haldimand taking the Command; and preparing them for War —— |
| October 1st | " | 2 | Camp at Wyallusing | Colonel Hartley (Rebel) Speech to the Chiefs and Principal Indians of Chinaung desiring them to forbear all Acts of Cruelty on their people —— |
| Decr —— | —— | 3 | St. Dusky | Copies of various speeches, by Lt. Caldwell & Rez. by order of the Comm. Offrs. Detroit to several Nations, to Animate them to act with Vigor and Unanimity —— |
| 1779 June 6th | " | 4 | Fort Pitt | Copy of a speech sent among the Delawares, dispersed by Lt. Morgan Superintendt. of Indn. Affairs for the Rebels, inviting them to their Interest —— |
| April 20 | " | 5 | Chicagou | Capt. Linctot Clarkes. Speech to the Pottawatamies — requesting they may remain Neutral |
| July 31st. | " | 6 | St. Dusky | Letter from Wm. Thrundell, with speeches of Delawares in Council with the Shawanese & Capt. Sermault, concerning the Declaration made by Capt. Elting, in favour of the King's Troops |
| August 23d | " | 7 | Detroit | Speech of the Hurons of St. Dusky & Capt. Sermault's Arrival, with Intelligence &c shewing their uneasiness of Gov. Hamilton's disaster, & of the Enemy coming agt. them |
| Sept. 18th | " | 8 | Fort Pitt | Copy of a Council brought to Detroit by Duquesne a chief of the Hurons, inviting the King's Indians to a treaty of friendship. —— |
| Octo. 20th | " | 9 | Shawanese Vill. | Speech from the Shawanese Vill. to Major Sermault, informing of a body of Rebels coming against them from Fort Pitt —— |
| Novem. 16th | " | 10 | Fort Pitt | Copy of a speech in Council between the Rebels, Delawares & some of the Shawanese who have been always attached to that Interest, for to act with them |
| 1780 Augt 22d | " | 11 | Shawanese Vill. | Speech of the Shawanese & Delawares, to Major DePeyster, informing of four of their Villages being destroyed by the Rebels, and of another party from Fort Pitt, requests assistance. —— |
| Septem. 15th | " | 12 | Upper Shawanese | Speech sent by a French man, in the Rebel Interest at Fort Pitt, to the Shawanese Delawares, Mingoes &c. forewarning them of their danger, and Rebel Col. Broadhead's message informing them of a large Body of Horse and Foot —— |
| 1781 Feb'y 12th | " | 13 | St. Josephs | Beaubien's Speech to the Pottawatamies. |
| March 11th | " | 14 | Detroit | Council with the Pottawatamies of St. Joseph, before Major DePeyster, giving their reasons for the Enemy carrying off their Trades — Hogs not to be left to the Mercy of the Enemy — —— |
| April 5th | " | 15 | Ditto | Ditto — with the principal Chiefs of the Shawanese, Delawares & Cherokees, for Assistance to get & repulse the Enemy —— |
| 26th | " | 16 | Ditto | Ditto — with the principal Chiefs, of the Six Nations, Hurons, Ottawas, Chippeways, Pottawatamies, &c. giving acct. of the Enemys approach, with Capt. Brant's Letter to the whole proceed immediately to St. Dusky &c —— |
| May 29th | " | 17 | Ditto | Speech of the Chiefs of the Hurons, before Major DePeyster requesting Assistance |
| August 11th | " | 18 | Ditto | Extract of a Conference held with the Pottawatamies from the Foot of the Rapids to extend some relief towards their men, women & Children for their Services —— |
| October 21st | " | 19 | Ditto | Extract of Do with the Hurons from Sandusky, craving assistance to go early in the Spring to destroy Fort Pitt —— |
| 29th | " | 20 | Ditto | Do of Do with the Miamis arrived from their Town with intelligence of the Enemy bound towards their Country — and a Demand of Assistance —— |
| Novem. 9th | " | 21 | Ditto | Do of a Council by Major DePeyster with Delawares under Capt. Pipe & Wingimany their Principal Chiefs, Concerning the Moravian teachers brought in —— |
| Dec. 11th | —— | 22 | Ditto | Do of Do with Delawares under Buckongahelas & Capt. Pipe — Condolence — And for Arms to Continue the War —— |

# Inventory of Indian Councils — Continued — — —

| Year and Date | mark on the Pond | No. of the Council | At what place Assembled | Purport of Proceedings |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1782 February 25th | A | No. 23 | Detroit | Extract of a Council held by Major De Peyster with the Massoutin and Qui, qui, about Nations advising them not to take a part with the Rebels |
| April 22d | — | 24 | Ditto | Do of — do — with the Mishikinackwa Chiefs from Ouiat and those who accompanied him, delivering prisoners, and for leave to Trade |
| May 15th | " | 25 | Ditto | Extract of a speech from Major De Peyster to the Ottawas, Wyandots, Chippewas, & Pottawattamies of Detroit, to repair immediately to the relief of the Shawanese |
| June 14th | " | 26 | Ditto | Substance of a Council, with the Qui, qui, a, pous, Massoutins, Ouiattanons, Ranquishaws, Miamis, and Piyaurwa Nations, for help to the relief of Ft Pitt |
| Decemr 1st | " | 27 | Ditto | Do — with some of the Senecas demanding presents. |
| 1783 January 13th | " | 28 | Ditto | Substance of a Council, with the Shawanese and Delawares, Condoling for the two Villages of the Shawanese being surprized |
| April 19th | " | 29 | Ft Pitt | Copy Speech sent to Major De Peyster from the Wyandots, requesting a reinforcement, & to know whether they are included in the Treaty of Peace |
| June 28th | " | 30 | Detroit | Substance of an Indian Council held with a Band of Ouiats and Qui, qui, a bout Concerning their Lands to given to the Enemy &c |

# Inventory of Indian Councils held at Niagara &c.a

| Year and Date | Mark on the Parcel | No.r on the Speech | What place Assembled | Purport of their proceedings |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1779 | | | | |
| January 29th | B | No.1 | Niagara | Major Butlers Speech to the Senecas, Mohawks, Onandagaes &c.a & their Speech addressed to the Gov.r for Establishing a Post at Oswego |
| Feb.y 13th | " | 2 | Ditto | Aaron the Mohocks speech to the Hurons, informing that the Shawanese and some delawares, invited the Rebels to their Country |
| April 2.d | " | 3 | Quebec | Genral Haldimands Answ.r to the Speech addressed to Him, by the Deputies of the Mohawks, Animating them to be firm & to support the Credit of their Forefathers |
| March 5th | " | 1 | Niagara | Major Butlers speech to the Onandagaes in the Rebel Interest, inviting them to come in and Join their Antient father the English |
| 22.d | " | 5 | Do | Message from the Cochnawagaes of Canada to the Cayougas delivered at their Village by two of Do at Niagara, inclosed in Major Butlers letter, setting forth the Contents of a printed paper sent by order of the French King |
| May 8th | " | 6 | Ditto | Copy of a Note, and speech of the Six Nations, sent by Hill to Gen.l Clinton promising to make a Junction with the Royal Army by way of Albany the ensueing Campaign, inclosed in Lieut.t Col.l Butlers letter |
| October 31st | " | 7 | Ditto | Colonel Johnsons Remonstrance to the Indians in Council requesting them to go down to Carleton Island or Canada during the Winter, and their determination not to Evacuate their Country, but to be in Readiness early in the Spring to go to War |
| Without date | " | 8 | Ditto | Council with the Senecas, Cayougas, Onandagaes, Several other Nations Condoling for the loss of their Chiefs & Warriors at Fort Stanwix |
| 1780 | | | | |
| Feb.y 12th | " | 9 | Ditto | Colonel Johnson and the Six Nations proceedings with four Rebel Indians taken by Capt.n Brant, for the Six Nations to lay down their Arms, & they may return to their Habitations, with a letter from Col.l Johnson to Genral Schuyler and his Answer |
| March 28th | " | 10 | Ditto | Proceedings & Transactions with Col.l Johnson & the Indians — To protect their Trade, and to prevent encroachments on their Lands |
| June 17th | " | 11 | Ditto | Proceedings of Kayashota and other Chiefs sent to the Southward (laid before Colonel Johnson) to form a Confederacy with the South & West Indians, which took place, & Sayengaraghta's application for the 4 Rebel Indians release |
| July | " | 12 | Ditto | Proceedings at two meetings with the Rebel Indians of Canaghsaraga, Oneidas &c. before Colonel Johnson, begging excuse for being so ignorantly led to Join the Rebels |
| October 29th | " | 13 | Ditto | Proceedings at a Meeting held at Colonel Johnsons Quarters, before Brig.r General Powell, Congratulating him upon his taking the Command |
| 1781 | | | | |
| Dec.r 26th | " | 14 | Ditto | Speech delivered by two Onandagoes and a Huron from Detroit in answer to that from Colonel Johnson and the Six Nations; with a general speech from them, requested to be sent to His Excellency Gen.l Haldimand for assistance in the spring to destroy Fort Pitt |
| 1783 | | | | |
| June 3d | " | 15 | Oswego | Council held by Lt.Col Butler with a few Chiefs of the Six Nations Containing report from the two Oneida Indians, that their Lands are to be taken possession of by the Americans, if resisted, they will Kill Men, Women, and Children |

Inventory.

Indian Councils and Proceedings
at Detroit, Niagara &c
from 1778 to 1783 ——

Dear Sir

Lexington June 19th 1784

I omitted to mention to you in my last that I had included Fine Money in the Pay Bill transmitted by you at Baltimore. The distressed situation of his family has induced Col. Butler to desire me to advance him some money in expectation that his Excellency would from motives of humanity dispense with the suspension of six months pay in consideration to his Wife and Children — I therefore request that you will have the goodness to mention this matter to his Excellency and to know his pleasure thereon, in order that I may act accordingly —

I inclose you an Abstract of the Subscriptions made for the 23d Feb.y amounting to £3137-10-0 Virg.a Cur.cy

With sincere Esteem I am Dear Sir your most obedient & very humble Servant

Edm.d Randolph

Hon.ble Baltimore

Reply of his Excellency Lord Dorchester to the Indians of the Seven Villages of Lower Canada as Deputies from all the Nations, who were at the General Council held at Miamis, in the Year 1783 except the Chawanees, Miamis and Loups —

Children — I have well considered Your words, and am now prepared to reply —

Children — You have informed me, that You are Deputed by the Seven Villages of Lower Canada and by all the Nations of the Upper Country which sent Deputies to the General Council held at the Miamis. Except the Chawanees Miamis & Loups —

Children — You remind me, of what passed at the Council of Fire held at Quebec, just before my departure for England, when I promised to represent their situation, and wishes, to the King their father, and I expressed my hope that all the Grievances complained of, on the part of the United States would soon be done away, by a just and lasting Peace —

Children I remember very well. I remember that they Pointed out to me, the line of Separation which they wished for between them and the United States, and which they would be satisfy: and make peace —

Children I was in Expectation of hearing from the people of the United States what was requir: ed by them, & hoped that I should have been able to bring You together, and Make You friends.

Children I have waited long and listened with great attention, but I have not heard one word from them —

Children I flattered myself with the hope that the line proposed in the Year 1783 to Separate us from the United States, which was immediately broken by themselves, as soon as the peace was

Signed

Signed. would have been Minded — or a New one drawn — in an amicable Manner. here also I have been disapointed —

Chiefs Sepoi My return, I find no appearance of a line remains, and from the Manner which the people of the United States push on and act and talk on this side and from what I learn of their conduct towards the sea, I shall not be Surprised if we are at ware with them, in the Course of the Present Year and if we are, a line Must be then drawn by the Warriors —

Chiefs I aske for a Passport to New York a passport is Useless in Peace it appears therefor You expect a War with the States befor Your return You shall have a passport that whether Peace or War You shall be well received by the Kings Warriors —

Chiefs You talk of selling Your lands to the States of New York, I told You there is no line betwixt them and Us, I shall acknowledge no lands to be theirs, which have been Encroached Upon by them since the Year 1783. they have broke the Peace, and as they have kept it not on their part, it doth not bind on ours, a line is drawn betwixt Us, in Peace or War they Must loose all their improvements and houses or Quit side of it the people Must all be gone, who do not obtain leave to become the Kings Subjects what belongs to the Indians, of Course will be Claimed —

Children What further can I say to You, You
Are Witness that on our Part we have
Acted in the Most Peacable Manner, and
bore the Language of the United States with
Patience but I believe our Patiance is
almost exhausted —

Given Under My hand at
the Castle of St. Lewis, in the City
of Quebec 18th Feb.y 1794 —

By his Excellency.s Command

Dorchester

Sig.ed

Herman Witsius Ryland

Means suggested as the most probable to retain the Six Nation and Western Indians in the King's Interest.

The Indians of the Six Nations, the Oneidas excepted, having taken an early, and a very sanguine part with Government have, by the Fate of the War, and Treaty of Peace, forfeited their Country, and many of them have been driven intirely out of it, with the loss of valuable Possessions. Seeing the Policy, as well as necessity of providing a Retreat for them, I made a purchase of a Tract of Land for that purpose from the Chipawa & Mississaque Nations on the North side of Lake Ontario, where numbers are now settling, having assisted them with Provisions & Implements for building and establishing themselves, all which, I had the Honor, duly to report to Lord Sydney. —

Upon my departure from Quebec I left directions to send the Engineer at Niagara to mark out their Towns &c. and to assist them in building a

Church

a Church and School-House, for which they expressed great anxiety — This Settlement should meet with every Indulgence and Encouragement of Government, not only in consideration of their past services, but in proportion as it shall be thought necessary to preserve the Friendship & Alliance of the Indians in general, whose Conduct is always governed by that of the Six Nations, in other words, the Possession of the Upper Country and the Fur Trade; and these measures should be taken without delay that the Indians may be comfortably established and experience the Effects of the King's Protection before the Posts shall be evacuated by us; otherwise, even if we should take Post on the North side of the River, they will assuredly abandon us and return to their former Settlements, which the Americans already hold out to them in order to detach them from us —

A certain quantity of Presents will be indispensibly necessary,

they

they should be punctually supplied, so as never to disappoint the Indians; but it is high time that the Expence attending these Donations should be reduced to a narrow compass which, with a prudent management and distribution of the Presents may be done without alarming, or distressing the Indians. The Conduct of the Western Indians & Tribes depending (tho' infinitely a more numerous People) will always be influenced by that of the Six Nations, so nice a management of them may not therefore be altogether necessary - some Presents and marks of Friendship are nevertheless due to their past Services, and should be, from time to time, dispensed amongst them.

I also think that the Establishment of the Indian department may be still much reduced, and put upon the same footing as in Sir William Johnson's time, which will be a further saving to the Public - Sir John Johnson,

and

and some of the principal Officers being in Town, They may be consulted on such Reforms as shall be thought necessary.—

Adams suggested as the most practicable to restrain the Legislative Decisions in the Courts of Chancery.

# Indian Affairs in Western New York at Close of Revolution, With Particular Reference to Land Matters.

by V. H. Cegood, Rochester, N.Y.

In 1768 the Six Nations of Indians, after the suppression of the conspiracy of Pontiac, settled upon a line of division between the lands which the whites should occupy and those of which the Indians should have possession. Sir William Johnson concluded the treaty of 1768, being then the British colonial superintendant of Indian affairs.

The "line of property", as it was called, began near the head of the Mohawk River, in New York State, and ran in a substantially south-westerly course to the Ohio River. The colonies of New York, Pennsylvania, New Jersey and Virginia participated in this treaty. The result was that the minds of the Indians were quieted with reference to the intrusion of the whites upon their hunting grounds and the lands where their towns were situated.

During the revolution, all the Mohawk, Cayuga and Seneca Indians, with most of the Onondagas and Tuscaroras, and a few Oneidas, were allied with the British whose military posts at Ogdensburg, Oswego, Fort Niagara, Fort Erie, Sandusky, Detroit and Mackinaw, were the centers from which they received their supplies, their presents, and their fighting orders. At nearly every large Indian town of the Six Nations there was a white resident, (usually the husband of a squaw) whose duty it was to report to the nearest British post all the movements of the Indians and all information to be gained from them concerning the enemy, and it was often his further duty to lead the Indians of his town in their scouting forays; in case of more important expeditions, detachments of soldiers were sent with the

Indians, usually, however, consisting of members of the different Corps of Rangers. The Rangers were made up almost wholly of men who had been frontiersmen and were acquainted with the Indian language and mode of life; and the bonds between the Rangers and the Indians were greatly strengthened by the fact that many of the soldiers had Indian wives.

Most of the white residents in the Indian towns above mentioned, belonged to the Indian Department under the superintendency of Sir John Johnson, the son of Sir William above mentioned. It was the duty of the Indian Department to preserve close relations with the Indians, and thus to preserve the strength of the alliance between them and the British.

Among the white men whose military duty brought them into these close associations with the Indians, was one Ebenezer Allan, who, after the war, had the foresight to select the One Hundred acres at the Falls of the Genesee River, where Rochester was finally begun in 1811. Allan was a Tory and a renegade from New Jersey or Pennsylvania. About 1779, upon representing to the governor general of Canada his losses and services as a loyalist, he was permitted to enlist in the Indian Department as a volunteer and was soon given military duty at the great village of Chenussio (afterwards called Little Beard's Town) in the Genesee valley on the opposite side of the River from the present village of Geneseo. He took a squaw to wife late in 1779 or early in 1780, and remained with the Indians for a number of years. He was a well educated man for that period, and by his force and energy became a ruling spirit among his red friends.

The preliminary articles of Peace between the united colonies and Great Britain were signed in Paris on November 30th, 1782. The armistice was signed January 20th, 1783, and the first news of the

cessation of hostilities reached Philadelphia on March 23rd following.

Sometime in the month of April, the British commanders at New York and at Quebec received official notice of the armistice and of the execution of the preliminaries of peace, but it does not appear that at this time they received any orders concerning the evacuation of the frontier posts or any directions concerning the conduct of Indian affairs. By the preliminaries of peace, the line between British territory and that of the United Colonies, ran through the middle of Lakes Ontario and Erie and through the main channel of the Niagara River. The British officers in command of the frontier forts seem to have hesitated to inform the Indians of this division line, but the news could not be kept and the Indians were greatly disturbed by the statement that all their lands south and east of the division line were ceded to the united colonies, and they feared that those who had been in hostility to the colonies would have to move away from their homes and their hunting grounds. They complained bitterly that the King to whom they had been loyal, had now sold to their enemies all their lands and that while the King's children could move across the sea to lands which they possessed there, the Indian was left without a home and without provision. They felt that they were a conquered people and they knew that the power of the United Colonies was too great for them to cope with unless actively assisted by the British, and that the British had now made a peace with their enemies. Their condition seemed to them hopeless.

In May, 1783, the Six Nations ceased hostilities against the united colonies so far as any general expeditions or attacks were concerned, and although small bands of lawless Indians marauded different portions of the frontiers, as a nation they were peaceable.

At each one of the British frontier forts was a collection of traders and outlers whose principal busines

was the exchange of rum, guns, powder, lead and other supplies, for the furs which the Indians procured. During the Revolution, the British had secured nearly all of this trade and the profits were enormous. As soon as peace occurred, the traders from the colonies began to push their way into the Indian country in order to re-establish the trade which had been broken off during the eight years of the war. This created a competition between the American and the British traders, and each party was anxious to exclude the other from the Indian country. The British traders exaggerated the covetousness of the Americans to obtain the Indian lands and proved their case by reference to the division line, and alleged that the American traders were simply the advance guard of a horde of whites who were to push the Indians out of the country. The American traders denounced the British for leaving the Indians without any benefit under the treaty of peace and referred to the King as a false friend who could not be trusted, and extolled the honesty and power of the United Colonies as exemplified in George Washington.

On May 1st, 1783, Congress passed a resolve to the effect that the Indians on the frontiers be informed that hostilities had ceased and that the British forts within the United States were to be speedily evacuated, intimating also that Congress was peaceably disposed toward them.

Throughout the war congress had maintained commissioners of Indian affairs for the Northern Department under the Act of July 12th, 1775, with headquarters at Albany, under the superintendence of the Continental Board of War, until that Board was abolished and then under the superintendence of the Secretary of War. General Philip Schuyler was the President of this Board of Commissioners for Indian Affairs and continued in this office until the Board was abolished about at the close of the war, and he then immediately became interested in behalf of the State of New York and acted as its

principal intermediary with the Indians.

Pursuant to the resolve of May 1st, General Benjamin Lincoln, Secretary of War, on the 3rd of May, commissioned his former Military aide, Major Ephraim Douglas, an officer in the 8th Pennsylvania Regiment, to proceed to Detroit and there to inform the Indians of that region of the accomplishment of peace. At the same time he commissioned a Moravian missionary, John Bull, to proceed to Fort Niagara by way of Lake Ontario and to fulfil the same mission at that point. (Colonel Arent S. DePeyster was the British commander at Detroit Colonel Allen Maclean was commandant at Fort Niagara and Major Ross was in command at Fort Oswego.)

Major Douglas proceeded to Detroit by way of Fort Pitt and reached Detroit about July 6, 1783. John Bull, with a companion of the same faith named Wiegand, reached Oswego early in June and Fort Niagara on the 16th of that month. Neither Douglas nor Bull was allowed to communicate with the Indians, on the ground that the communication could not take place with the sanction of the British Commandants, except by orders from higher authorities, and also on account of the fear that the official communication would arouse the Indians so that it would be difficult for the British to control them. Douglas was sent on from Detroit to Fort Niagara and thence to Albany by way of Oswego, while Bull and Wiegand were sent on to Detroit and were there allowed to join a Moravian colony near by, which was under the ministry of the famous Zeisberger.

The question of the rights of the States in contrast to the rights of the Continental Congress was a most disturbing question at this time. Each State was fearful of usurpation by Congress and Congress was fearful of the possible superior rights of the individual States, the Articles of Confederation were too weak a bond.

By the preliminary articles of peace, Great Britain had agreed to evacuate the frontier posts

and Congress had agreed to recommend to the States that the loyalists should not suffer further losses on account of their allegiance and that debts due to loyalists be collectible; but Congress had no power to enforce its recommendations and the several States not only ignored them, but immediately commenced active steps against the friends of the national enemy. The loyalists were heavily persecuted, their property was confiscated and their debts were uncollectible, and many were banished.

On this ground, Great Britain refused to evacuate the frontier posts; and by this refusal succeeded in retaining the valuable fur trade. On the other hand, the Colonies alleged that a large number of slaves owned by citizens of the colonies had been taken away, not only during the war, but after the peace, and that, being property, they should be restored, and that this was sufficient ground for declining to enforce the recommendation as to the loyalists. These contentions brought matters to a stand still and the treaty was not executed by Great Britain, nor were the recommendations of Congress as to the loyalists carried out until Jay's treaty in 1794 settled these questions. The British posts were not evacuated until the summer of 1796.

As soon as General Schuyler discovered that Congress was sending emissaries to the Indians, he bestirred himself perhaps on behalf of New York and sent certain messages to the Indians by some of the Oneidas, who had cast their lot with the United Colonies. Some time in June, 1783, some white men probably traders, appeared at one of the Indian villages in the Onondaga region of Western New York and made the alarming statement that Schuyler had sent a message to the hostile Indians to the effect that they were conquered, the King had abandoned them and they must move off of their lands. News of this message reached the commander at Fort Niagara and he immediately denied to the Indians that General

Schuyler had sent such a message and stated that it was without doubt the work of some unauthorized, wicked and designing persons.

On the 2nd of July, the Indians held a conference at Buffalo Creek at which Colonel John Butler, of the British Indian Department, was the superintendent, and there the Indians discussed the situation with him, stating their fears, and in particular discussed the message alleged to have emanated from Schuyler.

On or about July 29th, Schuyler wrote a letter to the Secretary of War or to Congress, outlining his proposed policy with regard to Indian affairs, forwarding certain speeches from the hostile tribes, and giving what information about Indian affairs he deemed desirable to communicate.

About this time the mutiny of the continental soldiers drove Congress to Princeton, N. J. for its seat, and on the 18th of August, Major Douglas, at Princeton made his report of his proceedings to the Secretary of War. Schuyler in the meantime had sent an official message to the Indians and on September 8th they sent their reply to him, stating that they had not committed hostilities since May, and expressing their desire to come to terms with the colonies.

It may best be mentioned here that the Indians were much confused by the distinction between the thirteen States as a single body, and the separate State each as a single body, and could not understand treating with the thirteen fires, and then with each individual fire.

At this period Ebenezer Allan was living in the Genesee valley either at Little Beard's Town or at Mount Morris, a few miles above. He had a little farm upon the flats and was conducting trade with the Indians. About the time of the receipt of the letter from Schuyler, Allan was employed in some capacity and by whom does not yet appear, as a messenger to

the Indians, for he wrote a letter to Congress or to some officer, dated August 12th, 1783, relating to the mission of John Bull to the Indians. About the same time, viz, August 19th, 1783, the Secretary of War presented to Congress the report of Ephraim Douglas [and the letter from Allen.] The British commander at Fort Niagara, Colonel Maclean, and John Butler, Deputy superintendent of Indian affairs at that point, became suspicious of Allen's conduct and ordered Allen, another white man who lived among the Indians and one white prisoner to be brought in to Fort Niagara by the Chenussio. Maclean had previously recommended to General Haldimand the commander-in-chief and governor general in Canada, that any white men among the Indians should be brought to the Fort and sent to Carleton Island, at the foot of Lake Ontario, seemingly in order to prevent the Indians from being disaffected. The Indians from Chenussio reached Fort Niagara on the 30th of July, bringing with them the persons referred to, except Allen. On the 30th of July they met Sir John Johnson and held a council with him, in which they again mentioned their fears as to their lands, their loyalty to the King and "their intention to die as one man on those lands and "not to be disturbed by white people."

About the middle of October Allen was captured and was immediately taken to Fort Niagara, but he escaped about November 1st and was not recaptured until about a month later. He was confined at Niagara until May, 1784, when he was transferred to Montreal. There he was confined until June, 1784, when he was sent to Catarague, now Kingston. He was soon released from close confinement, though required to remain at the Fort at that place. He remained there until some time in September of the same year, when he was released.

In January, 1784, some traders came to the village of Chenussio, Little Beard's Town, from the Susquehanna region in Pennsylvania, to inform the

Indians that they had a large quantity of goods upon the Susquehanna and stated that they had been invited to come there by Ebenezer Allan. The officers at Fort Niagara dissuaded the Indians from treating with these American traders.

In June, 1784, the military Secretary of Genera Haldimand wrote to Sir. John Johnson, enclosing a memorial from Allan requesting a speedy trial or else release) and in his letter said: "the subject of this "[memorial] is well known to Joseph [Brant] who expressed "a strong desire that Allan should be kept in confinement "until the meeting of the American commissioners "should be over, satisfied that from resentment he would "renew his intrigues with them to the prejudice of the "government. You are acquainted with Allan's character "as a brave and zealous loyalist throughout the war, "but upon his being dismissed the service he went "into the colonies and from Joseph's and others "accounts did great mischief by debauching some of "the Indians to the influence of the Americans."

A Tradition exists about Ebenezer Allan substantially as follows:— that at the close of the Revolution, the Indians of Western New York were very unwilling to cease hostilities, and that Allen stole a Peace Belt, carried it to the nearest American post and delivered it as a message inviting peace; that the Indians could not disregard the sacredness of the Peace Belt, and, much against their will, stopped their hostilities. This story bears upon its face at least one evidence of its inaccuracy. No peace belt would have been recognized as an offer of peace except it had been delivered by authority of an Indian council, properly convened and duly held.

In the next place, it is found from certain Canadian authorities that the Indians actually stopped all general hostilities in May, 1783, about the time that they received the first news of the execution

of the preliminary articles of peace and of the armistice.

The General have nearly all charged the British with bad faith in stirring up the Indians to keep up hostilities after peace had been reached, but from the letters of the commanders of the different frontier posts, this is found to be incorrect. These commanders constantly counselled the Indians to preserve peace, to deliver up all their prisoners, to accept the treaty of peace and to have faith in Congress and in the Colonies that the Indian lands should be kept from intrusion of the whites.

Ebenezer Allan seems to have been the man who held the key to the situation. He was married to an Indian woman whose descent (Seneca and Shawanese) was as nearly royal as that of an Indian could be, and he lived at the great town of Chenussio which was a central point of the Indian Territory of the Six Nations and on a kind of neutral ground between the British and the Americans. Being thus situated, he could trade alternately with one and the other, and according as his interests dictated, could affect the Indians to one side or the other. He had been a sergeant in Butler's Rangers. Having great force of character, combined with his social and military position among the Indians, he could wield great influence, and hence it is possible, as above suggested, that his personal history is the key to the knowledge of Indian politics in Western New York at this period.

1783 David Thomas Esq.r 8.r ... 9/ paid for Settling his
Bills
Ab.t Aaron Evans Dr. To 26/ paid for the said Evans for Carriage of his Baggage
Sept.r Alexander McCrahen Cr. by 2 Shares of Shop L20 on account 2 Shares
Shares on hire not yet Credited on the Back of the

Aug.t 30. 1784

Monday ended my Service in the Comp.y Genl Office
Tuesday commenced on the Duties of the Office of Ass.t
Agent to the Indian Com.rs Pow.d & continued making
Sept.r ready the ready for Cargo & Shifting the same till 8 Oc.k
when the Cargo beg.n aboard the Sloop Sailed twenty seven
Articles which was next day was sent on board a Sloop
for York appointed the 10.th inst to sail off took my leave
with great deal of Satisfaction, the Honest complyd I was not
a little Satisfied, no one effected me more than Mr. ——
Not wind Capt Ahern warped & Sailed with much Labour
& indefatigably injured my feelings great deal, however my departure
was hastened next day the Sufficiently was liberated Ahern
was quite placid & Solemn seems — / Every thing adjusted ready
to go with the next Stage — It may be observed my feelings was
found wounded by my detention that I remained all day on the

tiny Room at the house of Grapes, thanks to the Jury by my Side I was
me, & I believe expressed any disagreeable sensation of a wounded &
confined Criminal — The next morning very early I got readily ready
took my Seat in the Stage (Coach) — Bristol 20 miles
a small Town consists of about 50 houses by no means
elegant or inviting, Bristol to Trenton 30 miles the appearance
of the Country appears large, but not well cultivated nor elegant, Princeton
the College an elegant commodious building of Stone large work 3 Story
high near 100 feet long, the inside either not finished or very much in ruins
at present a very indifferent appearance inside, about 60 Students only the
buildings at Princeton are generally handsome appearance for about 150 or
50 good houses, Church tolerably handsome, the Situation agreeable & pleasing
& healthy — Kingston a very indifferent but a very pleasant Church in it 3 or
4 more Houses Situate near Millstone Creek on which a Grist Mill near
Brunswick, contains a considerable number of Houses mostly frame
built, a Church with some elegance a Barrack of stone pretty commodious
a few houses on the main Street like genteel, Harvest of the Houses
on 2 Streets on the Water very indifferent no taste nor elegance in
short the meanest appearance of the size I ever saw, Woodbridge

Bonham Town near these not much notice Woodbridge from
Kingsbridge 3 or 4 Houses nearly a Ditto — Rahway little above
Situation & Latter Country — Elizabeth Town a handsome little place
40 or 60 good houses, 2 Church steeples a Presbyterian building a Pretty Mile
square the remainder of the houses are good deal elegant Situation
on a fine River, but not arranged in the order of a Town appear
ing like Country Seats upon the whole its Situation charming
Inhabitants recommend the place — Eliz T Point 1 House only
a Tavern — On the View of the Jersey from Trenton
to Woodbridge Bucks appears a great Commerce in the County
low flat level the Soil a sandy whitish Clay I saw no tall
Groves of Trees no fine large green watered Meadows nor small rivulets
like in Penns: a Country house no Grandeur nor Wealth appears
by their Farms I must observe that from my view of that part of
Jersey (40 miles) is a poor Country discovering few advantages to the
worst of Soils, from Woodbridge to Eliz T Point much better
interspersed with Rocks hills and Dales & Streams Quarry more & more
Stone Ferry & buildings the Soil Fertile Country agreable to Pitts

12 Eliz T Point took Boat at 10 o Clock sailed past Staten Island
I was amazed to see the Island look so rough Hilly so very many
good Farms about 16 Mile long — 1 o Clock arrived at York
coming up the Bay we had a pleasing View to the North, the
East River long Island, Staten Isl: Jersey, York &c &c
I have little Recruits of passengers, in the Stage, I found
in the morning, was very loquacious, to shade which I pressed her
to sing which after a while she indulged us with, but so unpassably
that I soon repented the change, however the long smart Jersey
low Bay took till Noon with very little intermission, my ear
may Judge was very disagreable, Duty would not accorded with the
Rolling of a smart Lady as under, I certainly would have declined to hear
a Young Man another passenger from Halifax Mr Jarvis was
very Sociable Friendly & I had much satisfaction & some advantage in his acquaintance
coming up the Bay we had a high Scene with the Skipper of the
Boat & a Rhode Island sailing Capt about fast sailing the Bantams
rude as we like they arose to a smart mornings Jam & Rice droll
east phrases was very diverting indeed Skipper was in great humour

Another passenger was a Mr Crosby from Philadelphia a very
Jolly hearty Fellow & added much to our entertainment, he in
vited me cordially to call & see him on my return)

New York City

12 1784

Sunday Sept 12th Two O Clock landed at York was so much a Stranger that I found myself under imbarrament how the best to dispose of myself, was amaze to see a great croud of little boys come on board scraping to carry our baggage for pay, therefore met no difficulty in getting my trunk taken from the Boat, however after inquiry Mr Livingston's a Widow Lady him to the Livingston family I was recommended to me I applied was rec'd cordially and hospitably — the family was himself one Son & Laundry, lodges a Young Clergyman from Scotland, a lad with him a relation of Doct Witherspoons the both having come over with the Doctr and a young lad Mr Vanderlin from Philad very agreeable & obliging, the Clergyman was quiet nothing extraordinary from him, we Dined, called on Mr Jacobs walked that afternoon about Town had a great opportunity of seeing the people coming from Church Met 3 or 4 congregs amongst which was Mr Gano's a Baptist congregation very numerous indeed, the young people of York appeared very genteel dressed exceeding Gay more so than those of Philad — I went to all the public buildings viewed first the north Church an old spacious building — the Chapel a fine elegant Lowe with the highest in Town then to St Paul's the most grand appearance of any Church I ever saw, & some others

Church

is called a reformed Lutheran Church differing from any that I have heard of before to which the Livingstons belong one of whom is the preacher, took a view of the Jail Bridewell and College the Jail & Bridewell are indifferent situate in the North of the Town, the College now Superb and commodious but not very tasty inferior to Princeton, has now as I was informed 160 students was much astonished at their mode of hanging Criminals over the Goal was erected a 4 square building like a summer house the first flower about 10 foot high about 6 feet square at

12 1 784

which was unconnected with the rest & supported by one pillar upon which the Criminals ascended when the Sheriff (for the have no Jack ketch I'm told) throws the rope over the hooks which is in the building and then goes below where by drawing out a pin which confines the pillar, and instantly down falls the floor or hatch, & so leaves them between Heaven & Earth — from thence we proceeded down Broadway (first called Black a Glass of Punch at Capt Tarrow, in broadway at the City Tavern, place of the greatest public resort of any in Town the town well formed well situated & agreeable, proceeded down broadway near there is a the remains of a large Church burnt past thro a handsome Grove of trees adjoining to a vacant Church Yard, I was much entertained with the curious inscriptions on the Grave Stones, from there down to the bowling Green 1/4 mile has been thick built but by the late is entirely depopulated in the bowling Green is an Effigy of George the 3d on with his head off surrounded by Iron pales near the Fort and Battery which is perhaps is more worthy of observation than any thing yet in york, for the form of York. It affords a very agreable Walk commanding a prospect of the Bay & North & part of the East River, Staten Island long Island and Jersey & York side, the Fort is inside surrounded by a strong stone side and the front is perhaps 20-30 feet perpendicular above the walk on the Battery, in the fort is a summer house pleasant to regale in & a high flag staff on which the first hoisted the american flag on the Enemy evacuating York, I think it is far too small to afford any valuable purpose of defending the Town but rather constructed to protect the holders from the City —

The Walk on the Battery I mentioned was this evening crowded with 4. or 500 people & adorned with Groves of trees (as they say it was built again) it certainly would be delightful, it is perhaps 40 perches long & upwards 20 or 30 feet wide but not paved, I think it would be of little or no use in defending the Town, from the Entrance of the harbour & could be approached so many ways, but answers the purpose of a grand ornament & really & perhaps might also incidentally be about 12 or 14 feet of a perpendicular height on the breast Works where it Joins the Water, from thence to the Battery

but an indifferent building the under part is made use of as a Market house the upper part is useful at present things ended Sunday's tour, Monday 13th recommenced my Walk Jacobs home went to the City Hall in Broadstreet where it intersect Wall Street, the Building is some what large & elegant the underpart is made no use of but a common passage in the upper part the Courts are held I believe of all the Degrees, we after viewing the Hall, called at Mr Simmon's nearly opposite to see Betsy B— that was she rec'd us very Courteously & was very glad to see her indeed delivered her a Letter from Miss L spend some time conversing about Philad. She invited me to call frequently to drink Tea that evening, bid her good morning sauntered about Town, went to see the Tea water pumps (as they call it) found it going by a Horse by means of sundry wheels & a large chain that part of thro the pumps with plugs fastened thereon & drew amazing quantities of Water up which they put fell into pipes with leaving them standing on Carts to receive the water as it pumped, from thence the convey it in a one horse Carriage about the Town & sell it to the housekeepers 2 Coppers a Buck at it being the only water in the place fit for drinking or Cooking they must of course dispose of immense quantities, I tasted it at the pumps its good there but by time its drawn off & carried it becomes no better than common fresh River water, I could'nt drink it, this day nothing turned up worth mentioning — next day met with Doct Mr Bond who invited me to call and see him very frequently but I did'nt engage nor go, this traversed the Town was much disturbed by a Lunatic French man with a train of Boys after him, he was dressed in a laced Hat a Curious Robe de Chamb which hooked behind the rest of his Clothes Ragged & antique with a Cutlass sword by his side & canes hanging to his Arm and a Violin playing and Dancing as he went honored by a Retinue of 100 Boys — I was told he was the best Musician in York and taught many young ladies the Spinnet Forte pia no &c & thereby made an amazing quantity of money but a great flourish but getting enamoured with one of his pupils, which with her denial being far superior in rank to him & with a redness of Cash, & the wound it gave his pride effected a distraction of



his intellects, & now continues as I have mentioned Sometimes now retired to the Coffee House entertained myself with various prints pasted on the Walls & partitions generally about Fox's Elections returning home was struck with a Hairmaker's advertisement stating a Shoe & a Boot. Then May our independance as long endure Till Sun & Moon & Stars shall be no more

Mr Jacobs & I went down to the wharf on his way to Philad. I gave him 2 letters one from Mr Nicholson & the other for my brother Jos we parted with reluctance with serious Symptoms of friendship promising to write to each other & invited each other to visit if it should be practicable at any time — he is the Son of a Wealthy Dutch Merchant in Halifax by another by him I was introduced to 3 dutch Merchants in York who were very kind & hospitable — purchased sundry articles found prices higher than in Penn. returned home that evening chatted a while with some Girls at Mr Jacobs Lodgings —

14th I spent in the same manner about Noon met Capt Bark Jon & Ferguson was very happy in seeing them went to May Montgomerys lodging agreed to sup on Oysters that evening accordingly that evening met at Mr Rattoons present Mayor Gen Montgomery Barkson Capt Ferguson Mr Brooks Mr Campbell Capt Hay and self a pretty party pretty well stocked supped on Oysters were very well entertained spent the evening with great glee, & retired about 11 O Clock, next morning arrived Capt Hyde with our Cargo to whom we were waiting & immediately after him Capt Sommers with the remainder of my freight, now hurry returned her first & from that time till 2 O Clock the hour appointed to sail I was discharging with turnips — I shall now proceed to say something generally of York It is beautifully seated on a point of land running down from York

Island towards the southwest between the North and East River at the termination of which point they form a Junction which and there has the name of York Bay and constitutes the harbour very convenient indeed Vessels must no difficulty nor hazard in coming in be their Burden what it may, and much protected from Storms when at Anchor, the Wharfs very way calculated to facilitate lading and unlading from whom of chains ships they can proceed up either the North or East River down through the Narrows to the Ocean or round the East end of long Island to the Atlantic, the Shores on York side are bold and of easy ascent, in short the situation of York seems to declare it formed for the seats of Commerce, as to the City & its Inhabitants — approaching York up the Bay the City displays few appearances of Elegance the houses near the bay generally speaking, as you advance further in the City there are Now & then appears a Mansion of Wearing the Superb Shew of late Commence, the Architecture I think are those buildings generally called those of Queen Anne outside

the City is a very irregular figured figure formed of triangles 4. 5. 6 & 8 sided figures, the Streets are Broad way broad street Wall Street are very contracted and run in very direction the best of the houses shew to great disadvantage from the Straightness of the Streets none of them are paved only with round stones which almost cripples one in walking, I am much surprized at the want of taste in laying out York & I think reflects a very great scandal over the founders thereof — but however with all irregularity they seem to do a great deal of business, there are great Quantities of Goods imported and exported of there, there are many very large Stores and good apartments, William Street is indeed a curiously ill very narrow and abounds with so many Stores & such a profusion of Goods impending for it that the with difficulty passage is effected Fraction in About a square there's a hundred Stores large ones too — to obviate the difficulty that must certainly arise from the formation of the Town and the



The inhabitants confused course of the Streets, tis wisely provided that every Streets Corner bears the name thereof, and every house is numbered otherwise the Stranger would be dependant on a Conductor of Streets to guide him home, there are an infinite number & change certainly impossible for a Stranger to comprehend and very narrow, confined & dirty generally save the Mall in Broad way, which by the means of a Grove of Trees breadth of the way, has been handsome before the fire which has consumed all that adjacent beauties & Buildings — As to the Inhabitants their hospitality I can't applaud I had due for every thing I enjoyed or got save the ambient Air, I experienced some willing kindnesses in pointing me the way with care, their Address & politeness is certainly unpolished & does them the Credit of being equal to any people I've been acquainted with, their Sociability I can't assert, that portion the papers, my situation was such that I could not mix with them nor give them an opportunity of shewing it in any considerable degree, but as far as I gave them Opportunity I can't applaud em, the Generality of Dress & appearance much like Philadelphians the Ladies round their Waists Dress & appear much like Philadelphians the Ladies round their Waists wear Gauze, their Head & Tales excels anonimity & conception & substitute for the modest tasteful of Quaker Girl proportionality from Base to Crown they display the enormous Cock'd heads 2 feet diameter & Bell hoop Tale of it — their Beauty I sometimes I Dare not to be covered from equality to Philadelphia, their Gait (the Result of a disadvantage from the roughness of the Way) their complexion as Johnsonomy for

Wednesday 15th Charming day I am collect a train of imperial Ideas as for Inspiration and there is a great Symmetry in their appearance so that it is impossible to determine which of Structure is most beautiful Leaving every preparation made for Sailing Capt. Hyde had unloaded & loaded the Cargo on board on Albany Sloop & being a transaction of theirs I take little notice of it — however about 4 O'Clock the Wind fair we Sailed from York for Albany & in about 2 hours lost sight of York — I found our Crew to be the Capt named Lewis

2 Strangers named Capt Gano Son to Mr. Gano the preacher who is a very worthy Character one Johnston a Bailiff and Major Montgomery & Mr Campbell I know I joined for the Tour the former is conductor of the Stores for the Continental Treaty and the latter the Secy for the Comrs on the part of the United States Major Montgomery late a Capt in the Penn Line he appears a practicious full of important Genius Talker disagreeable & unprofitable no reflection I conceive from the Conversation on the Tour however I believe him to be honest and in his way kind

Mr Campbell a young Gentleman of the Law from Virginia a person of Genius polite honorable & kindhearted in short stuck of a Gentleman & clever fellow, but has too great a turn for Dissipation I think

I now found myself very happily situated on an excellent new Ship with exceedingly good accomodations our Cabin was truly elegant and equal in every respect to my lodging room at home, every necessary both for eating & Drinking that an Epicurean could desire and the Company possessing a Disposition to mutual happiness, leaving York and sailing up the N River we passed many fine beautiful seats near Town of which Lefevre's Potters, in the army passed by Fort Washington & Lee, or rather the Ground where they were, being entirely demolished, their situation is commanding but would require a great number of Troops & Artillery with Breast Works Batteries &c to effectually command & render impregnable in defending the River & stopping the pass of Vessels the might approach I turned in my Berth with every Satisfaction I ever at as perfectly at if I had been on my native Shore or usual Bed — At noon very well pleased our selves breakfasted but my head was a little disordered for we had kept it up the night before with Wine in profusion, towards with the turning of the Tide we floated along, 10 Oclock past Stony point Fort made memorable by Genl Waynes Gallant and successful attack on it when in possession of the British, no representation can impress on mine with the prowess due to the Captivators from so potent an Enemy — for 'tis my opinion that if the Post was well fortified and man'd the place would be impassable by almost any force it is situate on the west side North River on a high craggy Eminence extending into the River plenty of Rocks very steep apart on every side and the Environs is furnished with a number of small eminences calculated to raise most artful redoubts upon the whole the Post well fortified would effectually defend the pass up the River it being narrow from the Jutting in of Rocks point on the opposite side — we floated on & by leaving the point I observed that the works were



entirely demolished & Remained only a small house a flag Staff and the Lines of their Trenches, we floated on pleasantly on thro the highlands the Windings of the River the perpendicular nay almost impending Mountains clothed with craggy Shelly Rocks affords a most romantic & pleasing Scene passed Fort Montgomery a commanding Situation but few remains of fortification at the Ebb of Tide we cast anchor about 46 Miles from York, that evening at 10 Oclock weighed floated passed St Antonio's Nose a curious & very high Steep Eminence the River very narrow & Winding, floated 20 Miles cast Anchor 2 Miles below West Point where we found our Fellow Boat Morning which was very rainy & afforded a brisk head Wind — 10 Oclock weighed beat up still passing most amazing heights on every side entirely clothed with Rocks and almost bare save a few Shrubs no Timber to speak of

the River is very narrow along here notwithstanding it is generally a Mile wide and upwards in breadth yet it so winding that in this place you can't see perhaps 2 miles up or down the River appearing quite interrupted & cut off with mountains, that you'd be amazed what had become of the River & by looking up could not wonder where it came from — with however we beat up still and 11 or 12 cast Anchor before West point, rained excessively hard Mr Montgomery having occasion to take in some Stores & an Escort of Troops which was the errand we stopped, him myself Capt Gano & another went ashore, repaired to the Commd. Magistrate who rec'd us very cordially & appeared to have a Disposition to expedite the transaction of our business, which we found on rather May Monty found, to his surprize (for I had nothing to

that instead of being ready to weigh in 2 hours, we were likely to be detained a very considerable as the event will shew such a great delinquency was then on some part I know not where but then almost immeasurable Wherever it lay when time enough had elapsed the warning sufficient given, Maj Daughty gave to his people to go about the business, & invited very politely to dine with him, My Curiosity led me out thro the excessive Rain, to look at the Works thinking myself to take notice of this place its first appearance makes it worthy from the show of Natural & artificial Curiosities, and more from its look expect of strength & which is owned by its being the only fortification that Defied the British Army in the late War I viewed it compleatly and distinctly from whilst I sat down and made the following sketch the rain and storm that was continual must excuse the want of correctness of form and perspicuity -

N°1 Officers Hill which appears from its situation to be the Key of the whole it looks down on fort plutnam N°2 and certainly if possessed by an enemy would soon make N°2 very disagreeable, the Hill is small regular about men to man it but is now mouldering away — N°2 fort Putnam very large & almost impregnably strong built of Stone it looks down on and entirely commands the Citadel N°4 its company it should be the boast of the



the Fort of Putnam appears to be so, for notwithstanding strength & superior advantage by nature and Art is with every plan of Defence here yet it seems all concentred in and to rest as such by the safety and protection of this fort, it will require men to man it & I cant know how many Cannon but considerable certainly — N° 3 Fort Wilks partaking of the advantages strength and situation & Command mentioned in N°2 but far inferior it pretty large Barrack requires considerable number to man it — the appearance is Breast works of Earth thrown up Abattis planted very strong one but is much decayed N° 4 the Citadel is the Grand Work of the Point its business is to protect — Defend or prevent the passing on the River, the business of all the others is to protect this from by land attacks: the Citadel appears to me the Absolute Monarch of the North River lies seated immediately on its verge on a height of 40 or 50 feet almost perpendicular the River here is not over half a mile wide except where a cham pleasure which if necessary must detain vessels passing till the artillery in the Citadel can open which must certainly annihilate them instantly, as for their opposition against the fort I have made no allowance for, for I conceive that no Naval force be it ever so formidable can effect it the least — It lies so high almost impending, the River being so narrow, that they cant elevate to touch the fort with Cannon, and as to scaling it from the water is certainly out of the power of men, the Assent is so steep & most effectually provided against, the front of the Citadel is about 70 or 80 yards long on the West, in the Rear is the Park magazines &c & too extensive and numerous to assemble a very great Quantity of excellent Ordnance lies there now, which is inclosed very strongly with planted timbers, in short in time of peace it's beautiful and curious and entertaining but in War of most

of immeasurable Value and importance, Certainly is a grand & superior
piece of Engineership — No 5 a beautiful level plain very rare
to find the like here when nothing but Mountains & Water to be
seen generly — No 6 is perhaps for Gun Boats very useful for parading
on No 6 a Beaut walk that looks down to the landing place indifer
ent neither need it be important by the Barrack 150 feet long would
contain a considerable number of Troops there is one or two more Barracks
on the point No 8 Head Quarters a genteel building I may ob=
serve that there is several handsome houses on the point, No 9
the North Redoubt lies far distant appears commanding but I did'nt
visit it — No 10 the South Redt similar to the East — there are a
number Reboubts to and again that I dont recognize No 11 the
landing place, No 12 Capt McClean's, the Road continuing in part
of figure 8 declined going to Dine with Major Doughty I called to see
Capt McLean & him & Mrs McClean expressed a decided very polite

pleasure of me & happiness in seeing me & I declare I experienced
very just emotion, I Dined and with Chatted with them about Penns —
I spent an agreable hour with them & Allan had declinently
with taking a draught of Shrub & Water, but them
farewell I always was attached to McClean but never felt
it so sensibly before, went on board in the Canoe with
Cpt Jans Wind blew high the sea runs high some danger in
getting on board — I just had word that a Sloop 2 mile
was over set & Cargo but no lives lost Monday I was detained
against that we must be
yet Therefore detained, ~~waiting on board~~ obtained unavoid=
ably to that day — that morning in Council came to under
standing that Capt Hyde (whose Sloop we had Chartered) in

had instead of informing Capt Lewis that his Vessel was altogether un
der our direction, only contracted with him to take the freight of them
individual Goods, then on board him, and as I mentioned we concerned
we had nothing to do with their bargain, never till now found that
Capt Lewis insisted pay for our passage and whatever might be
put aboard in addition to what Hyde had, this discussion
was made by Montgomery, going to put on board a Ton of flour
due & a party of men it caused some dispute & must unanimously that
but we found Capt Lewis to receive nothing without pay which he
insisted was agreable to his Contract with Hyde who expressly
by forbid him, Our malignancy of Crew was raised against

Hyde & We bestowed him Epithets plentifully but he was
at Philad & did'nt feel the effect, I and his Rascality
was too important during subtle & machinations to be resented
however it concerned no further than my own passage, Hav=
ing prevailed on Capt Hyde with must to sign the Bill of
Lading at York I ought to have mentioned that he
went off from Philad without doing it which
convinced me he ought to be watched & furnished me
with a strong opinion that he was a Deserter
went to Bed slept very ill, next Day was a dread
ful Morning, a heavy Storm of rain & Wind a furious

Sea and dare under a Rocky hill shou all our safety from the Anchor which was very fortunate to be engaged, our situation & prospects were terrible without considering our internal dissatisfactions from our voyage by Hyde & detention from Appointment where this unhappy controversy took rise the Wind calld yet detained by the Gentlemen at West point which effects me with uneasiness & chagrin, 2 O Clock my Montgomery having his Stores on Board Lieut Moore & his Command of Forty Troops 30 in number imbarked, the wind very Slack we hoisted Sail, found the Sloop aground but with some difficulty we got her to wear & soon left west Point just passing Mr Campbell composed the following piece of poetry,

Albany Oh Albany where art thou
Fort Stanwix Oh Stanwix where art thou
Commissioners Comptr. where are ye
Oh Secretaries Secretaries where are ye
at West point

3 O Clock just got up from Dinner can't but observe the strange & pleasing effect the rolling of the Ship had on me whilst at Dinner, and all of us at the same time eating & Drinking and enjoying most perfect sociability sanctioned and mirth abounding over the sparkling Glass, but the aspect of things soon changed a very warm and high Dispute arose between Mr Montgomery & Lieut Moore respecting the ordering of Tents for the men however Moore with his men at his back compelled the execution of his request & sent his men in the hold for the Tents indispite of Montgomery's positive orders the contest continued in high Words some time, but not long and when Subsided & Moore had waited would

have indulged him with what he demanded & as our indulgence was all the light he ought to expect it in; Rains hard a fresh Wind unfavorable passing on against Tide by tacks

The Craggy Cliffs ascending Height
Immures our sides, excludes our sight
A Rapid Current Glides below
The Winds a head unkindly blow
Our fruitful Sloop opposing nature's force
Avails the same to Join her Course

6 Oclock cast Anchor, about 3 or 4 Miles above the point our Crew & self were as happy as I could suppose it possible tile now, but harmony now gave place to Contention which got coarser to increase at the same time the Soldiers on Duck being nearly all intoxicated were belching tremendously an unspent Volley of imprecations quite terrifying which the kept up, Bottle after Bottle they fought I believe 5 or 6 pair had been already engaged since they came on board I never saw such abandoned Wretches, what with their fondness & proclivity to Conquest in every respect without, the alienation between the two Gentlemen within, rendered our Vessel which was the seat of peace and sociability, a dwelling in which only Daemons could delight the act of all tempting an influence continually for pacification, in which task Gano is entitled to great merit for his well meant endeavors to conciliate both parties in some instances followed him particularly in turning under the fury of the Soldiery from Mr Campbell who was evidently near receiving this ill treatment, but however in the purport of his good intentions he was unfortunately surrounded by Demons of Discord & Madness, but obtaining honorable Capitulation, he yielded

himself a prisoner to the Government of Morpheus, morning came on the rain ceased, Tea was introduced, the Alteration in the Cabin now fulfilled, Tea removed the Glass brought forth Whist was proposed which was our common practice, we sat in Manner & on as of Tuesday we began again to injoy ourselves the Wind must ought to have been more favorable as best them, tuesday was awaked about Midnight with the tossing of the Ship the Tide serving we Cast Weighd & got under Sail I went on Deck & found ourselves under way in a most dreadful Thunder journey to take vengeance for our late Crimes of presumption Blasphemy & Malignancy, but the Capt prudently stuck his sail & Cast Anchor or we should soon been now under water in my opinion Sunday 19 we soon found the Sloop at Anchor

a beatiful Morning, but the Wind & Tide directly a head yet detained & commanded us stand upon the Treaty in Morlesyy — Oh! Cause of Tears — Oh God of Wind, Delight to bless us with your aid Avert your Cruel foes combind, & prosper us we shall not be delayed — this Morning I spent part of in a paper controversy with Mr Hamilton refuting Beef & Wine as the performance in prose and verse 10 O Clock Weighed Anchor & got under way a very Boisterous day indeed we were in continual danger from the sudden & Violent flaws of Wind however provided by tacking our Course, making but little way at first but the Tide serving & strong we availed & made better way — about 1 O Clock got out of the Highlands which We had been in since an Extent of 22. or 25 Miles on the River during which

Distance the River is inland with a Chain of mountains exceeding in perpendicular hight any I ever saw the Butter hill the last on the West is curious in the extreme, all the Distance there is not one plantation to be seen, now on the East passing New Windsor a Smart little Town 50 houses not in the form of a Town yet the houses being pretty Genteel not elegant make a handsome appearance, situate on the South side of a Hill which and a tolerable well fauld Country on the East Highlands yet new Windsor 60 miles from York, the Wind hard & flawy & the Sea rough at Dinner past Newburgh much like Windsor the houses something more elegant a small harbour an engaging Country around looks beautiful from the Water, the East Side now in turned opens a narrow settlement & Mountain

down in the rear, 6 O Clock cast Anchor having gone about 5 Miles passed over the Chev. De Luzerne in the Storm a dangerous passage, — being now Calm weather, Country well settled on both sides as went on Shore, was much diverted by the Yankee Settlers they were then of the proper Stile and returned on Board went a Bed, in the morning found 20 this is the day of our selves at Anchor before Poughkepsie 80 Miles from Newyork Cast Gone & sett went on shore viewed the Village Indians at Stanwix Situated on the East shore ½ Mile from the River 80 or 100 Good Houses some very Elegant — a Jail Court House 2 Churches Sundry Stores & Taverns Lately the Seat of Government of the State of new York, a Beautiful Situation

the Country apparently fertile the people polite — in short the Town & Country and every thing is engaging about it and met my fancy in a Degree superior to any place I saw since I left home returned on Board the instant hoisted sail the Wind smart and fair we now sail 7 or 8 knots an hour passing a Country at present not very good in appearance, I may observe that our wonted harmony & social manner is in some measure restored & sociability prevails, and every countenance clothed with great satisfaction at the Welcome Wind, continued fair till night, when the darkness thereof obliged us to come to Anchor opposite a Town called Clarrick the place of Capt Gano's residence, We all sat down to take the parting Glass which we did and repeated sundry times continuing the Song Circulating Supper was ordered, eat all we had best enough, and are now going to leave the 4 planks on the table which we general had set about with, for Bed, the Wind high the Vessel rocks beautifully & I'll soon be asleep

21 — a pleasant Morning Gano took leave of us I was sorry to part with him he conducted during the passage in Every respect — sociable entertaining & engaging — and I think him a Good fellow & much of a Gentleman, I charged him if he come to Philad[a] to call on me & he also me in like manner if I came to Clarrick — which place we are now bearing — 'tis situate on the East of

side of the River there is I am told above 100 houses but its appearance is not Elegant regular nor compact, the Some of the Same are pretty handsome, the situation is not bad and the contiguous Country has the name of being a Good for wheat Country the Town tho indifferent in its appearance from the is more than Such very much of a Commercial place a very considerable carried on already & is advancing rapidly, we now go on Slowly, but all our Wind & float with the Tide 130 Mile from York soon dropd Anchor at 9 O Clock almost a hurricane a foaming Seal & freshning Gale Our Anchors Weighd we're under Sail } rapid Went amazingly about 1½ hours the Wind dyed away come too Vide M[r] Campbells Letter to M[r] Courtwright & other works — weighd again continued tacking our Course from a Ground tierce 80 Leagues too having made about 2 Miles head way, our Stores of provisions

exhausted no Winds or Tide the Commissioners certainly waiting for us, business delaying not withstanding its importance and the punctuality which ought to be observed, I since under these considerations felt exceedingly unhappy, all this day passed so pleasantly a Country both by appearance and reality that our situation was somewhat alarming by our want of provision having sent repeatedly on Shore for some without success a great part of which scarcity must be owing to their Indolence their extravagance too is not less worthy of notice the Boy returned now from shore without being able to procure any thing but a Quart of milk for paying 12 Coppers & almost praying for it too — Ah! Merciful God does such people deserve a Country — Spent the evening agreeably as possible from my anxiety, 22[d] a foggy Morning could'nt get

[illegible] want of being [illegible] able to determine the Channel
May Monday went on Shore in order to go by land to Albany
about 20 Miles distance, Now lying without a prospect of
[illegible] in any reasonable time, my Anxiety increased to
an extreme I had [illegible] all my philosophy, I just arose from
breakfast with an exellent appetite not having nar enough Victu-
als to satisfy it but however we all shard thereof in a due
proportion to the quantum, and had the deficiency amply
supplied by hearing Jack the Helmsman say if the wind
continues we'll be in Albany by 2 O Clock" - The Wind having
now dispelled the fog (and with it my cares) I induced the Capt
to weigh and hoist Sail & now making good Head Way -
passing on by an indifferent looking Country, so I think by the ind-

line of the inhabitants tho it is rather too Mountainous to be
conveniently Cultivated, but am told a small ways in the rear
the Country increases in fertility and improvement however we go
swiftly and soon are in Albany I [illegible] it with almost Joy, and
chearfulness most certainly is evidenced on my brow, but the ancient City
in return appears [illegible] in mourning but perhaps 'tis its habitual
appearance, passing by a beautiful Seat of M. Rensselaer on the East
another Gen Schyler's on the West very elegant a number of very pretty verdi-
Scots on the West 2 Miles from the Town here we pass over Sand
bars the danger and Difficulty that very much injures the Commerce
of this place, (called the over Slaus) the Sand which I have mentioned
that now between the Capt & Maja is over & will be buried and forgot
amidst the hurry of business, it were having come on the Tapis
since - We came too at Albany Wharf 3 O Clock P.M, Landed

very hungry
we were very wont immediately in quest of a Tavern here houses Streets
Inhabitants Dress and Mien were Curiosity or rather Prodigies, I
was instantly in Surprize with every thing, & continues to be so - I'll
next soon as possible say for Dinner, proceeded to M. Dennistons Tavern
I [illegible] introduced to M. Arthur Lee Com. a Gentleman from
Virginia of great Report, about 35 or 40 years of age
Good person very Sensible Polite and apparently [illegible]
agreable
met Genl. Butler was very glad to see him Dined with the Contl Comrs:

from Schenectady to Fort Stanwix is by Water 109. Miles, by Land about 98. being the limits of the navigable Water of the Mohawk River, which I am informed runs about 50 or 60 Miles North of Fort Stanwix amongst a number of Mountains from whence it takes its Course southerly till near to Fort Stanwix when its direction inclines to East inclining a point or so to the Southward, 30 Miles on its passage from Stanwix the Country being very level the River mostly deep and narrow & very crooked insomuch that in the said distance the length by Water exceeds that of the Land 8 or 10 Miles, the remainder of the River to Schenectady is Straighter, and generally a greater Current, the difference in the size of the Stream at Schy to that of Stanwix is very considerable at the latter perhaps about 20 Yards the former 300 and very deep the Mohawk continues on the same Course & forms a junction with the North River about 16 Miles below Schenectady at the falls called the Cohoes, this fall is about 70 feet nearly perpendicular and effectually cuts off the communication between the Mohawk and the North River the passage on the Mohawk from Schy to Stanwix is about 6 Days to about 2 or 3 but my Ideas in my opinion he must improved

I have frequently mentioned the uncommon excellency & fertility of the Lands on the Mohawk as far as it is settled, which is within Miles of Stanwix, the residue of which if anything exceeds it when cultivated & settled, the good must be more extensive the mountains lying farther from the Water, from below old Fort Schuyler to Fort Stanwix 46 Miles in length may by little industry comparatively speaking all be thrown into a beautiful extent of Meadow interspersed with necessary Creeks and fruitful Eminences, and I think mowed almost forever without Manure, The Inhabitants on the River we had an opportunity of acquainting our selves generally with - from Schenectady to Fort Hartimer a matter 3 Miles below are all Low Dutch, a people who I always found unsociable & disagreeable to strangers, & Hospitality is the product of importunity rather than a voluntary discharge of the duties of humanity, in neither of these nations they infallible but mind very much upon acquaintance and have generally found them swallow the bait of flattery with unsurpassing satisfaction, They settle & Country richly and cultivate it well, but in their Buildings furniture or Dress there is little appearance of Wealth or Elegance and less of ostentation - this I adopt as a Maxim that they always spend nearly second your reputation, if they receive you indifferently they'll use you tolerably but if you make way into their graces you get private usage, The Idea of cleanliness I think is applied to them rather too generally, some certainly merit the title but not all their Behaviour is uniform and respectable but less interesting than their Neighbours, their Young Women I think are possessed of a small share of pride or coquetry essential ingredients all to render them delighting or engaging, This settlement is very old & am told was flourishing in point of plenty may be evident that they have suffered greatly and subsisted these Calamities of the War with a meritorious share of

fortitude they chose rather to stay and in small parties defend
than abandon their possessions, which was done at the price of their
lives frequently — From below fort Herkimer upwards (the beginning
of the German flatts) upwards is peopled by Germans the distinctions
of the Nations are very obvious here the German are prouder more
interesting and determined than the Hollanders, their Country and
their people to all the usual commotions & troubles of the late
War, have had the additional experience of the most horrid inter-
nal Savage One, the Savages having a knowledge of the Country
aided by the Albany commerce cation, & stimulated, by their
infernal Abettors the Johnstons Butlers &c have insulted on
from the most unheard of Cruelties & murderous Barbarities
many places & Buildings intirely waged by fire every one of the
others have been Garrisons defended by Blockhouses Stockades &c
so that almost every where appears a Fort & their Inhabitants

are more agreable and hospitable to Strangers than is generally
reported of the Nation, their Politeness from appearance and
information, have been uniform and inflexible, and continue to
preserve the greatest detestation and Enmity against them of their
Countrymen who joined the Enemy not suffering them to return yet
to live amongst them on any conditions one wonder if their Vengeance
towards such should never subside, in this Rich and Beautiful
Settlement which is about 9 miles along has been many Gentlemens
plantations flowing Wealth elegance but are most demolished or
perhaps quite destroyed, at the upper part which I am told
was a handsome little Town called Germantown, Now no remains
of it being burnt by the enemy, But this Mohawk Country
from its Natural Advantages & the Industrious disposition of the
inhabitants must in a few Years be able to rise if not any settle-
ment I have seen or heard of, Now to Return to our present

Situation, Fort Stanwix (alias Fort Schuyler) is situate or rather
has been on the South side of the Mohawk River, there being now
remaining no more than 3 small Blockhouses ¼ Mile below the
Antient Works, and some Cabins near hereto, the Fort being blown
down by Gen Gansevort in being burnt and demolished by Brandt
& enemy, the Ground whereon it stood is rising but not commanding
the most parts and expence has been bestowed on it to make
it strong, the Abbattis are very strong the Trenches Deep and
the Bomb proofs very considerable it would require Men
properly to Defend the lines, after surveying this Fortress and
our Boats were aired & their Cargo, found the same
generally in as good order as could be expected, by the time
I learned the Stores the Commissioners Cond & State arrived all
will save Genl Wolcott who remained on the Road sick this
Gentleman the first in the Cont Mission Lodged in the House with me

in Albany, where I was introduced to his acquaintance, he is from
Connecticut, advanced in Years has the title of Genl appears to be
Studious and of sound Judgement & Judicious in his motions but dont
seem to be possessed of that lively imagination Immediately Sagacity
that distinguishes some, Made my arrangements with the
Stores for the ensuing Night, was by some letters I brought in
troduced to the Gentlemen of the place, who were Doctr Elliott
& Mr Tempest partners in Trade here Mr Wheelock who is engaged in
Business with Mr Shirtliff and Revd Mr Kirkland, one of the inter
preters the two first Gentn very politely invited me to lodge with them
which I accepted of, Augt 3d in the Morning found the Marquis
de Fayette Mr Mathews, a young French Nobleman and Mr
Mathews a Virginia Gentlemen had arrived here before us, this day,
the Indians for the first time were called together and a Council fire
kindled, the Cond Comrs opened the business a short Speech delivered

Gen.l Elliott introduced the French Gentlemen & their Commissioners, on the Speech he signified their design to Treat their Wish for peace & friendship &c And desired the particulars like the ~~Indians~~ Several Nations were represented in how they would go fully into the Business, he was Answered by Cap.n Abbe alias Con Plante a Seneca Chief of Great confidence and a Man by all Accounts of great Abilities naturally, his Speech was short & to the Subject, he congratulated them on their arrival expressed their willingness to treat & the Spirit of Reunion that prevaild with them, the Marquis arose and delivered his Speech to them with much Oratory and Elegance calculated to favor the Interest of his King & Most to promote the Continental Business, he upbraided them that joined the Enemy in the late War with reprehensible Conduct & praised them that stood for their Country against their own Brethren, very finely, and was answered by old Grasshopper King of the Onidas and by Brigadier Cayhoraga Chief fully with a great deal of Volubility the latter Spoke fluently —

I now for the first time heard mon Savage in almost every Speech Harangue &c on important Subjects With Eloquence force and Coherence, which I found by explanation to be pointing and respectable in every Sense and was told 'twas far superior to the original — Mr Kirkland was Interpreter (Vide the Speeches) Mr Deane had the Speeches together and settled, 4.th this day Marquis & his Comp.y set off & were by Gen.l Maxwell's Party in the afternoon, I engaged politely to deliver the letter I Spent this day agreeably, was taken into the Mess with the Com.rs which till the departure of the French Gentlemen was too strong & the accomodations not sufficient — 5.th this day an unfortunate contention arose between Dan.l Elliott & Co & the Com.rs they having advertized & forbid the dispensing of any Spirituous liquors to the Indians, the Com.rs conceiving this to had transgressed Resolutions, some words passed between Gen.l Butler & the

Bal.l on the occasion & that warmly, all the real cause was the Doct.rs not humbling on the address of Gen.l Butler, I believe for all the liquor dispensed was I sent given to an Indian for some turn or other — the first Cap.n Mercer to get an Anct of their liquor which they refused their Orders were then I found that the Officer should seize their liquor and store it which was done, this was the Subject of the Day, It made me very unhappy, for I was on such good terms with the Gentlemen & was hospitably treated this Day Mr Deane that moaned my return, 6.th I fished in fishing caught some fine Trout in company with Mr Craig did some business — 7.th wrote great part of the day in my Marquee, 8.th a Ditto of the last, & may Observe that our

living was sumptuous & agreeable the Greatest freedom & amity Subsisted amongst all of us this day the Com.rs had one their Council a Speech was delivered by them purporting some General things & was answered by Cap.n Abbe like a Cicero for force Eloquence & accuracy as Mr Kirkland informed me (Vide the Speeches) 9.th this day in Comp.y with a Mr Fisher to Canada Creek to Trout caught a fine Parcel - this Creek abounds with this kind of fish in greatest plenty a person of Skill can take as many almost as he chooses this Stream comes Canada North of this place its Size is that of a large Mill Creek Brisk Current rapid & Zigzag We proceeded up the Stream near a Mile Where I was really astonished with the performance of the Beaver, their efforts in making Dams exceed the conception, Of one who never saw the like here I observed as they had cut down Saplings 4 or 6

Inches Diameter of Green bough Bark cut them in about 4 feet lengths & carry them to the River to form a Dam, in which I am told they so far succeed that they turn large Steams which I found affisted in part, their Roads are also various this Creek discharges its contents or forms a junction with Wood Creek at this place 8 Miles from Fort Stanwix the Road from Stanwix is down the side of this Wood Creek, a Rich Bottom all the way and might be improved into a Country equal to the Mohawk, up this Stream the Boats come from Lake Ontario for the Mohawk, that from down within ½ Mile of Fort Stanwix to which place it is Boatable, the Sluice fixed two afforts by flooding when the Water is low at this Sluice is the landing place when the Boats & Cargoes are put on Carts & Wagons & transported to the landing place on the Mohawk this carrying place is a Mile in length and a very good Road & then the Articles are put in Batteaux, proceed down the Mohawk to Schinectady three by land 16 Miles to Albany from thence down the North River to New York, thus from [redacted] this place you may by the way of Lake Ontario & River & Lawrence you may go eastward to the Atlantic or by the Mohawk and North River Eastward to the Ocean by Water Carriage

the carrying place from Schinectady to Albany is occasioned by the Locks which I have mentioned I think may be Changed by a Canal into Water Carriage tis talked and probably to be done at some future period, This morning the Sub Sheriff of this County Moore served a Writ upon Capt Mercer at the Suit of Doct Elliott and Comp. in consequence of his seizing their Liquor by order of the Comdr as I have abroad, 10th Inst the Comdr being informed of the proceed of Mercer, consulted upon the occasion their result was to disavow the Authority of the Writ & forbid Mercer to obey it the Sheriff mounted on his prisoner, Going with him, but the Comdr finally gave Capt Mercer Orders, if the Sheriff persisted any further to confine him instantly which with Ritual and persuasion I believe frightened the Officer & staff he went, with this sentiment as I was told that he had seized the Depd Store that he was returned "Brit Army" this was the subject of the Day at the same time letters passed between the Comdg Comdr & a Major Skyler a Comr from York State who lives by the State Stationed on the Ground to observe the movements of the Comr on part of the Continent & to oppose what he might Judge would essentially injure, Wealth of his State, this they considered as an insult took great umbrage at it — the morning of this day the Genl Elliott & Co were ordered to Sally out of the works which they proposed, they Encamped accordingly — in most of their transactions that Created these contentions between us & the York Citizens I was determined to rest as neutral as possible the Contention My uniform opinion was that the Comr might have used more Civility & preserved as much dignity, this Prudence I that would have facilitated the Business of their Mission, which when compleated more liberal & opportunity would have offered to furnish the disaffection & opposition made to their Measures by the State of New York which they were continually charged with, I that I sometimes discovered a degree of Counter action in the people of this State to our Journals, but generally my Opinion is that it was more Ideal than real, I modestly Attend their sentiments to some of my subjects on the

Mission but was warmly opposed therefore determined to remain Mute on the Subject ~~of all Instances which I have mentioned as passed at present~~. 11th Day, amongst ourselves we Still continued on the best of Terms nothing extraordinary happened, 12th this morning ushered in with an Alert that Cap Mercer (pursuant to an Order of the Comrs the night preceding) had seized and Stood all the Liquor on the Ground including particularly what was disposed by Maj Schuyler the property of the State of New York, this measure as it was founded on I dont know what if the people had disposed of Liquor they Comrs had not concealed them in it therefore it must be moved by a Jealousy of consequences that might happen I not what had happened so I think it was premature & attended with more severity than was essentially necessary May I always Questioned their Authority, if I was Erring in that in this I was sure I Erred, that is to say, the Jealousies that I have mentioned being communicated this morning by Jews to nourish them into an open & Violent contention I that with a people who had influence with & disposed much of the confidence of these Indian tribes, and at the same time furnishing the Savages with a proof of our want of unanimity & System from which would naturally create suspicions in their minds & consequently would mar the Treaty or render it less effectual, which might I think be all eluded by a less severe line of conduct, I have desired this Subject be dismissed by leaving it to the event, All are just going to a Council – At this meeting the Comrs read their Commissions requested them soon as convenient to point out the Boundary Line of Lycoming, told them the delivery up of the prisoners was an essential preliminary or previous step, they were very explicit of pointing in every matter it made the Indians Sore the Speech was delivd by Mr Lee I in a Language by no means accommodating or flattering quite unlike what they used to receive

after peeping them to a Dust & serious Deliberation on the Subject, and an explicit reply from their Council fire, which this morning was communicated May Schuyler a Comr from Yorktown I have mentd. before his appearance on the Ground the Comrs mortally ordered him off – 13th This day about Noon a wounded man came in, who with others in number had been attempting a Voyage to Niagara, who gave this intelligence, That whilst they were at Dinner on a Buck near Bunders River 24 miles from long point on the carrying place from Detroit to Niagara, They were fired upon by 4 young Indeans of the Mohikon Tribe which four killed 3 wounded this Mesr Isaac Arnold by name, upon wch the surviving 2 into their Boat hauled Sail the Wind being fair made their Escape The Indians on hearing this called a Council told the Comrs not to be alarmed with it 'twas the Action only of a few ill disposed persons – Cap Lane arrived with 50, then introduced to him St. Pennyton & Ford appears to be agreeable worthy companions – 14th. 15. & 16 a Jamaica in the occurrencies from the time we arrived at this place till now we had exceeding fine weather, like in the highest Stile weather too Sumptuous for my Constitution or inclination & Generally passed my time agreeably enjoying uncommitting health 17th This day met in Council Cap Abeel rec'd advice of the Death of his Son then a Condolence ensuing to Ancient custom was necessary, which they went through in presence of the Chiefs, Cornes indeed Vide the Journal &c of that days Your Commissioner at the close of this business were answered in their Official Character in consequence of preceding Solicitations I was told – Cap Aaron spoke this day very Audaciously & by no means agreeing with what was expected he seems to be an Enter

forgoing Warrior but impolitic Statesman he indeed assumed all Importance in his Speech of a Emperor & pared himself at last with the American Potentates in power & strength, in some instance his assurance was as much as could be borne with Astonishing with assulous Arbitration and Arrogance, 18th This Day Met also in Council Cap O Bale arose and made a long and Artful Speech in which he marked out the Line between the which he proposes and wishes to be ratified, the whole was couch'd in Reserved & undecisive Terms and the Line which he described in these Words beginning

was a most fierce upon the design, attempting to take great of the State of Pinsin long ago purchas'd of them his perposition about the Exchange of Prisoners was absurd his reasons for taking up the Hatchet altogether impossible to Commence & more especialy in the Cursing of a Treaty — at the close of this days business sundry of our Gentlemen were Named by them Published, Here I may observe somewhat generally on their Mode of Conveying Ideas, their Ideas are

very original and mostly expressed by something natural and familiar, the metaphorical, as for instance, when Cap O Bale had advice of the Death of his Son, " he said that while the Good Spirit had brought them together & found to have open'd their hearts or Lungs to speak clear, & to understand each other well & Disposed their minds to friendship and peace, the Evil Spirit without a face had come amongst them & struck a hard blow & Spilt one of young men under the earth which had very much darkened their minds, but hoped they would soon be cleared from the thickness that hung over them, And also when the word arrived of the Murder committed by the Indians, Cap O Bale said that while the business of peace was going on the Evil Spirit had come among them and struck a Blow on their backs, but he hop'd

18 this Brothers of the United States would suffer it to drive At back the 18th We were entertained this day with a game of Wicket played by 2 nations of Indians the Anudais against the Caghnawagas 12 of each side stout young men this Game seems well calculated for the Indians, this being noticed the parties Engaged by arrived themselves bound by pride honor and Interest (the Bate was 20 Doll.) the Ball being first forward the players prepared themselves by stuffing and taking plentifully of Rum the play began by 2, instantly became general and I have not seen such Reactions and dexterity and assurance Ambition the parties were well matched and the game any entertaining however after a considerable time and after every possible Endeavour attempt being made, the Caghnawagas, gained

the Wager which was announced by a most hideous Shout this game of Ball & Skittles and Dancing appears to be their principle mode of diversion, their Dances are performed as follows (which is generally or always after night) viz a fire is raised & Jug of Rum if possible brought for the they drink then form a circle around the fire and commence by a funereal character pronouncing aloud an insignificant as " hony aw haw he yare " the rest of 'em strike in with a Grunt which is to answer the purpose of beating in musick, they are all now in motion running around stamping without any particular Step observed more than what is natural only the more active the harder they stamp they go 3 times round then start aloud frairs their hands turn their faces to the fire stoop half bent & increase the rapidity of their Steps

must proud to repeat the same, sometimes running into a Spiral line, then into a Circle again which all the variety most is not for whilst they Set the at times change places, the females do not often enter the list but if they do their appearances are very severe and their gate Slow and main stiff and awkward, We generally clapped in their Circle when present what appeared to please them very much nay they would think us churlish if we did not— they continue the same with intermissions all night perhaps, 19th Nothing worthy of notice the Indians Sober for want of an opportunity to get intoxicated 20th this day Mr Lee delivered in Council a most Spirited Grand Speech, it claimed as very much but had a very good effect and deserves great Credit ——— describing the Line of Division and terms of the Peace offered

21st Good Peter a great Speaker of the Onedas delivered an elegant Speech in behalf of the 6 Nations expressing that they had agreed to the proposals of the Col Commrs

22d had a conference with us to day held by the State Commrs which continued all the morning

23d another conference this morning We brot them to accept of our offer this day met them in Council being ready the Conferences completed we made a long Speech to the Indians on their Answer, had our Deed executed and our business concluded to our great satisfaction & Credit and

to the
Advantage of the States—

24th & 25 busy in preparing the Goods to deliver to the Indians nothing very extraordinary turned up

26th This being the day appointed to distribute the Goods I accordingly repaired to the Store and they having assembled persons amongst them to receive & distribute the same they sent men to carry the Goods from the Store to the Fort, to whom I delivered them without description determination or exception, in about half or a whole hour time was compleated, previous to this those delegates who rec'd the Goods had appointed old Graybeard to sign the receipt on the Bill for the consideration thereof I took a walk up to the Fort to view them dividing the Goods I observed the greatest decorum and apparent impartiality prevail amongst them, & apportioned the Goods to each Tribe with much exactness not a word of dispute or dissatisfaction, in this they very much exceeded my expectation, whilst I was accompanying this Col. Johnston & M.r Malay were to pack the Horses

and load the Boats which being done we immediately embarked M.r Malay & self in one Boate we first put to our Guide and disappointment found one of our Boatmen so intoxicated as rendered him incapable of any kind of duty our only alternative was to effectuate our selves which we did and soon got past, where the 2 other Boats were took us we turned the drunken man and threw him out about 9 Miles from the Fort where we left him to sleep off his drunken humour, we then proceeded on our Voyage, about 6 miles when night coming on we came too & encamped in the woods, where the other Boat overtook us, here for the first time we lodged under a linnen roof but making up a good fire slept very well, next day all started and kept together about 12 came to Fort Harkimer here was first presented to the sight of Major Parr from Philad.a We rested here a little & set off again, & must again observe of the land for about 40 miles no downs to speak of land hardly attainable, but of all the natural luxuriancy & show of Verdure

& prolificacy of soil this excells Oh what a most valuable Country it now as almost having the carrying of Gold and Silver is imposing Wild and unclesh, - came this night to the Falls where we encamped a Wild romantic please an extravagant fancy could paint to itself palaces towers Gothic pillars Grecian Columns pyramids Arcs & Obelisks all nations had peopled the Rocks around us and the most Variety crowded us on all sides that Draw pen, rested here as usual, set off in the morning, cold and somewhat uncomfortable during the this variety in Rocks continues a considerable distance piled one on top of the other in amazing perpendicular height and the River meandering thro them there Falls are not great & I think with a moderate expence might be rendered navigable, this place one day must by its situation be very valuable Spot - proceeded on down the River arrived at one M.r Roofs, 36 Miles from Schenectady I ought to have mentioned our Road, the Com.rs agreed on conclusion of the Busi

rep at Fort Stanwix, Which was to return down the Mohawk to the nearest place to Lake Ofsego there to land, transport our Stores and Baggage across the County to the Lake there to proceed down the Susquehanna to some place most convenient to journey from there to Pittsburg, from to Cayahoga the spot appointed to hold the 2d Treaty — 30 last night lodged very comfortably at M.Roofs he seems to be a very hospitable good kind man, he engaged Waggons for us, which we loaded this morning 5 in number with the Batteaus & all our Stores and Baggage Just previous to our starting the high Sheriff of the County came to the House in quest of Capt Mercer who was with us he took him and insisted on his going with him as his prisoner, which the Commt all opposed at M.Lee Sit on his Sword & went in between the Sheriff & Mercer, & said he had given it under his hand that the Officer should not be subject to him or the Command of his Writ, besides he that a sword he would support the same the Sheriff seeing that it was a rescue & went off without him — after this started the Waggons hired a horse for myself and servant for Otsego Lake, Upon the Road the worst I ever travelled or at least equal to any, I am now waiting for the Waggons at one Burbicks by the Road side the outside of the house recommended it to me but found the inside by no means correspond I see very in the house I believe the Sheriff dont at all worth £3 their furniture 2 pewter basons small a Tea pot and a little broken ware a small box 2 splint baskets a piece of an looking Glass, 2 inches square and 2 sheets of furniture paper stuck on above & one below to ornament the Glass, 2 old Chairs and 1 Table all broke 2 old puggins and 2 small pots compleated the whole, but what was worse than all myself & those are very hungry and can't get any thing at all to eat for this plain reason that they have nothing for themselves, the

Most of the house had but one Eye a despicable creature the Woman gone abroad, the rest of the family were 4 fine beautiful little Children, here rested awhile when Col Johnston and Mr Mackay the latter of whom was very sick he returned to the nearest house, we [illegible] the waggons came up proceeded on to Bowman's Creek there encamped, this evening a very warm dispute arose between Col Allen and Maj Montgomery which I was afraid might have disagreeable consequences, but the Comd Gentn took part with Allen Upon Montg had to hear sundry severe reprimands from Col & Mr B and then sunk in silence he was much in the wrong and the other by no means right for there was no apparent cause for contention, I was lodged very well in the morning the 31st proceeded about 3 Miles which is about Midway of the Road by land & stopd here to view the Salt Springs which are worthy of notice, the water I tasted tis quite strongly impregnated with Salt, it appears contained in a kind of shallow well and drawn up by a Balance Bucket which discharges its contents in a trough that leads it to a Boiling Kettle, after remaining there a while to evaporate is conveyed to 2d then to a 3d Kettle which is all the Useful House up, then and to be a 4th when all properly carried on would make a skipple of Salt, Friday, these Springs were certainly of great and singular advantage to the inhabitants in this remote County during the late War and continues to be so but in a less degree, I think the Salt made here appears very similar to that made in the Delaware Capes — on a little further we 4 Miles we stopped at a place called Springfield probably from 2 Springs of very great magnitude that rise here, one of which the principle one I went to see, is a most beautiful large Spring

rising by Ebulition on a perfect level out of a limestone Rock clear as Crystal perhaps 15 feet deep and 20 wide, the other nearly similar but not so large I am told — these Springs are the primary Source of the great River Susquehanna, this Springfield is a small beautiful fertile spot consisting of a few handsome farms, but the Buildings are entirely demolished, done by the Enemy the Savages in the late War, the planters are just beginning to rebuild & must soon be a pretty little Settlement, but I cant when I reflect on what ravage Desolation and Barbarities committed on the late War by those infernal Savages and on the most Distressed and Defenceless families just beginning the Settlement of the Wilderness under almost every disadvantage 'tis like burying a youthful Stanton Senior Officer, containing most of the Vitals of a growing Estate & I say cant when I think of this reconcile our forgiving or treating with them without the greatest exertion of Philosophy and Nus

Christian principles —— however we proceeded on arrived the Wagon that hauld our Boat and met many difficulties and arrived at Lake Otsego just before night, this was certainly the most disagreeable Day that could be conceived of rained all Day and passed the worst road in the world all hills and Mire as mud up to the Axles of the Wagons the distance from the Mohawk to this Lake is about 18 or 20 Miles, the Land on an average pretty valuable mostly inclined for Grass & pasturage few farms of any Note at all on our left we passed a Settlement called Cherry Valley a very antient & valuable place but the Buildings were all destroyed by the Enemy and many of the inhabitants Massacred at the same time the Land I am told is very good — at Lake Otsego we found one or two Settlers particularly one Capt Hoals

who has first Mill & Saw Mill, he was building a barn which we got in and made our selves very comfortable Capt Hoals was very kind endeavoured to accomodate us to the best advantage he owns 6000 Acres Land & has a beautifull situation and in a few years with the help of Society can make himself as happy a life as man can expect in this world, fishing fowling Boating & Playing here in their season to the greatest perfection

November 1st

Lake Otsego is 10 Miles long and from ½ to 3 Miles wide the ingress of the water on the North and the Egress the South end of the Lake, the Water that composes this Lake is produced by those Springs I have described Sundry other adjacent Springs as also the waters of the Lakes called Wiaucos and Youngs Lakes on the West, the former the most westerly which is about 4 Miles long & 1 wide, lying parrellel to Otsego 2 Miles distance the latter about a Mile Square, those both Lakes are surrounded with good Lands and beautifully situated and discharge their Contents in Lake Otsego, this day being long wished and we having our Boats to Caulk and Sundry preparations to make we agreed to lay up till the morrow — 2nd the Wind having eased, & cleared this morning is very fine, We loaded the Boats and all things ready and ourselves on Board we took a Grog gave three Cheers and set off, Now was my Genius feeble here it would desert, What Romantic Beauties lies near Nature displayed Gentlest every conception a Morning equal to any in May a most Sylvestry of Mountains approaching by a Gradual ascent to the water a Beautiful large Lake below, as transparent as Crystal and as smooth as a Sea of Glass here & there a Sporting feathered Squadron Now a Sprightly finny tribe first to please & next to feast the Jolly Sportsman — the Waters appears like a Kindzguan

of an immemorable number of Springs I immagine the furthest Spring head cant exceed 10 Miles, the lands about this lake are mountainous some of it very fruitful, but for the most Barreny & not to be Cultivated to advantage but there is hardly Sufficient level to form a very good Settlement, fixed on the land & the old minor very much a little back from the Water, in about 3 hours Scame to the egress of the Lake, which produces the River Sarquehanna this lake being its principle Source just at this mouth of the lake was the Seat of the late Col.o Croghon but is now burnt and entirely destroyed tho yet retains its natural beauties in full view of the finest land on one side the most beautiful lake on the other diversified with Mountains Vales and levels

here would my Muse delight to roam
to indulge her natural Lay
but Duties chide the Goddess home
& time forbids her Stay —

thirsty youthful State of the Sarquehanna affords a very indifferent Navigation this day was moderate & I am told that it was so for we all had to plunge in the water and drag the Boats most all the way, we got about 2½ Miles & incamped, next morning we set off the water low yet commenced the day with rain, and very cold rid. the ted Run 3 or 4 Mile from the Lake here Mr. Campbell staying from the Boat got lost, I was in search of him without (enough) tele I was wearied & had most all gave him up, when at last by accident he made his way by our hiring to the Boats, here rid. the River Oaks 7 or 8 miles from the Otsego this River comes out of Lake I have called Schyler's Lake (alias Oaks) at the mouth of this River is a fine bottom and all the way up it to the Lake and around the Lake land is exceeding good, I am told, before this I had been in the River hauling the Boat, West from the River and

from the Rain and Cold from the Climate I was unhappy & fatigued beyond description, the Oaks is a large stream and had a pleasing effect, in our almost forlorn situation, for after this we had a very resolute Bastable stream round all day at night encamped, 4th this morning Shavey proceeded on good beating and good land, rid. Cherry Valley mer this 21 Miles below the Lake a pretty Creek & situation fertile Land front possessed now by one Carr next to the White & Black Rifts 4 or 5 Miles long 31-6 below the Lake the stream is wide shallow rapid and Rocky exceedingly bad & must require an amazing deal Work Expence to render it any how tolerable, here at the end of the Black Rift came too stayd all night at Mr Vanolstons were hospitably rec.d a pretty situation good land I may observe that after we began with the Rifts the land became more indifferent 5th last night a very sharp and warm dispute arose between Mr A & Mr B about a pilot it arose to a great height its consequences may yet perhaps be considerable, the after a while cooled, I think they were both wrong be that as it may, they both acted quite puerile — this morning we had to pass a place called Hell Gates just below Vanolstons, they are produced by a great Rapid the Channel Crooked and much clouded with logs and trees & they are certainly make the passage very dangerous, however we got thro all safe, now Rapid after Rapid & Shoals 2 miles below the Black Rift rec.d Schemerhorn's Creek a smart stream indosed with fertile bottoms now along the Sarquehanna the Bottoms are not so good as above the White Rift & ought to have passed an encomium on the River from thence up to the Oaks is a most beautiful stream to Boat & cleared of logs no stream can excel it, but very crooked

– the River yet very bad me the Charlotte River 4 Miles from Schenivar's Creek a large pretty Stream fine land up this River & some say Gold dust has been found in considerable quantities up this water but for this I have poor authority, The River Thomas came too at Mr Swemlin's rained this day to be in uniform with all the days we have cold Dust from morning to night & lodging we had'nt even an opportunity of drying our Cloths for the ensuing day, – our hardships were extream – Loaged tolerably well 6th ensuing still set off 8 Miles me Alleya a small Creek from the West 4 Miles from the Lake the first 3 Miles was shoaley rapids and very difficult passage the next 4 Miles very good still easier than 3 Miles rapids which brought us to Aulcout Creek from the East, here a few Scotch settled before the War but soon abandoned it on the approach of hostilities, and fortuned themselves to the Cause of our Enemy, one amongst many proofs that that Nation could bear freedom 5 Miles further to day to Unandilla an old Indian settlement a handsome place by Nature, there was here one small improvement, we staid here I may observe that the two contending Gentlemen I just above took notice began to beat each other potibly again & I believe there will be no more on that subject – this day we found much good bottom land where the Water is Vile and Dark the land is much better than where the reeds are ; its one Fuller that has settled here – a sick traveller at this place informed us of the depredations and hostilities of the Yankees at Cayuga particularly their having murdered Lt Reid & Henderson on the

the latter on a sick Bed & sundry other horrid outrages – We left the Unandilla 8 o Clock, about a mile further we the Unandilla River from the West a fine large Stream not much inferior to the Susquehanna, our River bed now became very large and as yet have very little difficulty on our passage in so this day many fine bottoms rich & Greening for cultivation, in the evening came to Auguaga, this is a pretty plain fertile land and might be till'd a large quantity cleared and under good grass, a small settlement may be planted here this is 30 miles from Unandilla here we found Mr Marlay who had stopped with the horses having lost the way &c, & I consented to take horse being extremely tired of the Boat, we set off Mr Marlay & I & 3 Servants crossed hilly mountains barren as possible the bottoms were of no consequence 18 miles to Chenango a beautiful River

and tolerable size & fertile plains on its banks of a great extent sufficient to form a Settlement in time ~~but to long~~ ~~but 4 miles further we enjoy a little plain and very~~ ~~about the~~ this is understood 9 miles by Land and near 30 by Water next to Chenango 10 miles are Borrows here we intend to lodge, 9th this morning arose very mild Chenango is a clear plain clear on the River one or Indian Town may be got formed into a Settlement set off came to Auga a pretty little plain and a smart Stream next for Tioga, we lost the way an Indian put us right we arrive at Tioga 34 miles we choose Genl Sullivans old block house for habitation to night, we root now in form for our comfort awaked in the morning about Bed and all, 10 hr Crossed the River Susqua at a quest rack the current being very swift, Tioga River is a large Stream about the

lower

point is some very good land, being now on the East side of the River we came to a house the 3d day from whence we had seen one pounded on to Cassatauris's stopped was hospitably entertained breakfasted proceeded on, passed Snakenuck Hill properly so called by leading 6 miles side would certainly guide on the mode of your departure by plunging down Rocks 100 feet almost perpendicular passed some small flats came to one Tilgherald, 3 Miles below Meyoach Creek 24 miles from Tioga, here the Boats overtook us the Water having given better and the Roads were bad Mr Marlay left me went on board and May Montgomery became my partner, we repeated to each other our Journal Difficulties dangers and fatigues and parted, Mountains and Enormous precipices thus continually it appears that we descend on for the express purpose of ascending another and what is more than hills are barren in the extreme a few scattered pines it absolutely supports them so indifferently that they have neither the size nor Beauty of that species of wood in other places & arrived at Tunkhannock 12 Miles from our last stage having crossed Meyshipping 4 from Tilgerald, a mill stream and a small rich Bottom. Tunkhannock is double as large as the last place at the mouth is room for 3 or 4 very good farms the small I could discover the appearance of Bottom up it a Distance proceeding on passed by a Falls on a small stream 4 Miles from the last, called buttermilk falls the fall is about 50 feet and that perpendicular from the edge of a Rock 15 feet each which makes the most beautiful little cascade that I have seen, but every side is furnished with amazing high sterile mountains, on the summit of which you have a most romantic prospect an unlimited region of hights and Rocks and Caverns arrived at Jones's a small fertile Bottom arrived at Tylers 25 Miles from the last Stage the road this day passed over a continued series of Barren Mountains few Bottoms of any note so that I have not been particular in my remarks thinking it unnecessary proceeded on

Bank a small distance before us the road now leading us thro a as very bad narrows night came on with very much difficulty we could get along at all fast by a copious Spring falling 20 or 100 feet but the night prevented enjoying the beauty of it arrived at Lanawany very late having come Danile from Jones' some dark or nearly we attempted by advice of the house we first found here to cross the Creek and proceed on to the other side for sleeping but we lost our way and returned to the same house had some high scenes the women were amazing warrior yankies & inveterate to an extreme against the Pennamites this flat is settled by Several families and extends up the Lanawany some distance this stream is large enough for Canoeing to advantage up to the falls on it and the land here is exceedingly good and a quantity sufficient to make a handsome settlement at every stage along here we were entertained with stories of the two contending parties here who were now at open War, in some and 30 Miles upon this day

much distress as we came down the River large families of women and young children flying at this inclement season to unexplored Wilds for shelter and not a house to receive them nor single atom to support them there expecting what they would take with them for the enemy must be great indeed where it will before this could happen — Set out passing Country not very good but tolerable, may all be cultivated and has been settled before the War but destroyed by the Indians the houses &c arrived at Wyoming 10 miles from last stage here to the eye opened to us a scene of horror disgust and detestation we went first to the Garrison which was then commanded by Lieutenant Dorrit called may Smith, from Northampton County his command was the most dirty disgustable immobility set I ever saw amount to 30 perhaps how ever they were as hospitable and kind to us as they could be the yankies on the other side the River stand on Block

houses more in number perhaps ~~attendant~~ perfect Banditti of ——— I wont spend my time in describing them but assure my reader they are the most villanous contemptible set in my opinion that the Continent could furnish but however they let us pass on with some difficulty &c. I'll leave now. Wyoming is a small Town on a beautiful rich plane but it has suffered from every quarter — the Indians Burnt it in 1780 to the ground the flood last Spring swept off and deluged all that was rebuilt and utterly destroy'd since it has been a little improved the Land here is very good and extends 5 or 6 miles up the River including the Shawanee flats 1½ Mile or upwards in breadth, a Valuable plane indeed and that of these inferiors of the Nature of the State, bounded on one side by narrow Mountainous Country, came to a little plane called Shickshinny 3 miles short of our intended stage but night compelled us to stop 12 or 14 M from Wyoming here we found a humble shed roofed and occupied by two families drove from Wyoming by the Yankies

We applied and obtained liberty to stay with them and glad we were of it too Rain had poured on us most all day and we were very uncomfortable, the Room door as it was built only of Boards and bark ~~only~~ kept the storm off effectually and we should have slept well — I might have observed ruddy might upon contentment found in poverty for these people absolutely to enjoy more of it than those in 3 story houses in Philad.a — but I have not time — I had a curious dream here of this remarkable to me ~~for I dreamed I was~~ last night I went 14 miles and would breakfast but hungry as we were we chose rather to fast than eat with them they were the dirtiest brutes that ever was possessed with — 10 O Clock saw the Boats the hailed us and Col.o Shoemaker & Mr.e Marlay joined us we set on disputing to gain Sunbury ~~raising~~ battle roads, pass an indifferent Country and thinly settled past bear Creek Jerkey Creek Mahoning a good Town on the two latter, from Wyoming to Sunbury is

upwards of 60 Miles —

Arrived late at Northumberland crossed the River stayed with May Wilson he was very kind much fatigued here was a mosquito Town as we came in but praying I would rather had my supper & went to Bed — in the morn went down to Sunbury one mile found many acquaintance here rested the day Boats came up about Noon, Northumberland Town is seated on a point of land that extends down to the junction of the East & West Branch of the Susq.a there are sixty houses here perhaps but none elegant Sunbury is seated 1 mile lower on the East side of the River about as large as the other latter buildings but I think the situation is inferior a very indifferent Country about here we left generally mountainous 15.th set out in the Boats having got a Pilot the first

falls we came to had well nigh stove us shook a Rock and here we in the midst of them this convinced us of the ignorance of our pilot and the hands were all drunk so that our situation was alarming and disagreeable we took the oars ourselves Col Maurer Gen.l Cook the man steered, past a bad falls 18 Miles from Sunbury got about 33 Miles night came on moored on an Island in the morning set off early 1 or two O Clock on the Juniatta a fine large stream appearance of a good Country on it came to Hunters Falls a dangerous place got down safe passed Coles Town a few scattering houses on the east side of the River a little before night arrived at Harris's Ferry the long wished for haven — having been 16 or 18 days from the Mohawk having a Region of upwards 500 miles in length thro a Wilderness experiencing dangers and hardships sufficient for that number Maurer & myself crossed to Harris's here we were well entertained

17 November rained so extremely hard could not be more than
have the Boats drawn out set up and engaged a Waggon
to carry our Baggage &c to Carlisle ~~and then~~ in rout on
the Western Tour, I ought to have mentioned that in
coming down the River we saw amazing effects of the flood
last Spring 'twas a common thing to see houses removed al-
most entire and thrown on heights and afterwards sacked to
pieces the inhabitants I am informed were in them at the time
of the Deluge Barns Stables together with all kinds of Cattle
carried off indiscriminately and intirely lost. I imagin the
perpendicular height must have been upwards of 30 feet
—— I have now purchased a horse tomorrow we set
out on the Western Treaty, this night was very near being drown-
ed attempting to cross the Run ~~thus ends my~~ Journal of the Northern
Treaty

November 19th having compleated the Northern Treaty, We are now immediately to proceed on the Western, having this Morning prepared ourselves croped the River and proceeded on for Carlisle where we arived in the evening, the Country from Harris' Ferry to Carlisle is well improved exceedingly fertile and oppulent Wealthy and flourishing, I took lodgings in Town at one Mr. Pollocks Tavern, this evening rec'd invitation from Major Montgomery to Spend the evening with him, coming off my tour my fatigued and out of repair It was disagreeable to but however I accordingly went was introduced to his sister Step sisters and the Miss Dumer I have mentioned, they paraded so numerously that I began to think all the Girls in Carlisle were Miss Montgs We finished our Tea Spent the evening very agreably for they are really fine Genteel girls, retired to my lodgings pleased with my new acquisition of acquaintance, 20th this being Sunday I dressed

Went to meting found Mr. Davidson in the pulpit. late of Phil.
heard him perform I think pritty than usual, pun the Girls which
by the by were few & by no means answerable to my expectations, the Day being foul & the Streets intolerably dusty and muddy
this probably accs. the circumstance — 28 this morning Rec'd some intelligence
from Philad.a very disagreeable and gave me great unhappiness
-viewd the Town, Carlisle is situate on a level plain abounding
with Limestone a most beautiful stream runs part the Town
which rises about three miles off in a delightful large clear lime
stone spring. quite sufficiently large to turn a Grist mill just
below Carlisle, the buildings of this place are very good com-
-prond generally of Stone, in range work and excd the Towns of
any County
town I have seen, many indeed very elegant, the Streets are
regular and the Town laid out in the same form as Philad.a
but the streets not being pavd & the ground low renders the
place very uncomfortable and almost cut off the communi-
cation for I have seen few Carriages, the Streets extend E
east and West, North and South crosing each other at right
Angles, from this I think there is no exception, the Town is
of an Oval form longest on the East & West Streets, the num
ber of Houses & Building I judge to be about 1000 to 1200 most of which
are Stone and wears a taste in the appearance the public works
I ought also to take notice of, they are built of Brick in the form
of Barracks two Story high, 6 or 7 in number quite hand
some outside, but some remain unfinished yet within they are
very capacious and if compleated would accomodate 5 or 6000
Men very comfortably, these Works were raised in 1776 principi
-pally - by Artificers inlisted in the Continental service, this
-business must have cost an extravagant sum of Money and

now time and the exhalants are demolishing them very fast
and will probably be fell soon which must be for a mere
song - this piece of imprudent extravagance may justly be
ranked with the follies of that Era - Then building lies North
West of the Town on a very handsome rise just over the
stream that passes by, this situation is engaging but as we
are forbid keeping armies in time peace, and in time
of War must be so remote both from the frontiers and seaports
theatres of Action that will under them ever at this time
unless as a Post very inconvenient, indeed I am at a loss
to conceive what were their motives of them that directed
those buildings - This evening we rec'd invitation to a Ball
made as I was told on our account, which in the event proved

to be quite as much to please themselves, however being fond
of this diversion I was considerably pleased, of the Ladies I was
to choose my partner, my election was Miss P. I being a
stranger was determined to be the Gallant & to increase
my acquaintance, the Ball opened, I soon as possible obtain
an introduction to the Ladies about 8 or 10 in number, we conclud
ed in good time, very indifferent Dance upon my word our Me
-sick soon and performers very bad, after waiting on the Ladies
home we returned to the house & Revelled most extravagantly
23.d waited on my partner, I was apprehensive that my ge-
-neral attention would tend to alienate my partner tho I think
I was not remiss to her, but an unremitting sociability in this
case is at all times necessary and not to be dispensed with, if
you wish to gain ones ends the grand secret of the fair Sex —

however this day I found that the said Miss Pitt had made considerable progress into the affection of one of our Company what he wanted in gallantry he made up in sincerity and constant attendance, I continued general and this evening convinced me that I was no more entitled to my fortune than another this not differing far from my wishes I took pleasure in the new alliance, and Mr — 's attention was most extraordinary & undoubtedly in this case would be gratified, he rose he wrote he tore again, he fasted he walked he dreamed & [illegible] She was his only subject, without a moderate income, 24th. This day we all left Mr for Fort Pitt the pack horses having disappointed us 2 or 3 days they now attend, I have finished packing and sent them on I am for taking leave of the ladies, this I have done with utmost imperticality, but the two I have mentioned raised an affecting scene, parting was delayed as long as possible & finally his cousin

name spoke him exceedingly affected & very unhappy I have not seen so palpable change in any person in so short a time at Noon set off passed a very indifferent country but am told it must be a small distance from the Road, 3 o'Clock arrived in Shippensburg — 25th. this is a small Town built the Road leading westward to Winchester and other places in Virginia and also another fork of the Road which divides [illegible] from the Town goes to Fort Pitt you is perhaps 1/2 a mile long on the Road but no depth but one house some handsome buildings and in some places the houses closely connected, this place is divided a small Charm or creeping between the dividends this Burgh is eminent but is so ill laid out as not to have much the appearance of a Town, here I observed considerable number of buildings going on which shews a disposition in the people to increase the magnitude of Shippensburgh, which

was by no means the case with Carlisle but is evidently on the decline at present notwithstanding the Mercantile Business cuts a very respectable figure there, in Shippensburgh I have not an opportunity of informing myself, but am told there is considerable done in that way, here Mr Monty & Mr Campbell & self overtook and joined Mr Lee & Genl Butler and now all proceed on together, we travel on for 7 miles thro the Barrens of Cumberland County then ascended the North mountain pretty steep ascending which on the north side the passage is very difficult, after this a valley called Horse Valley the land indifferent & few settlers, dined, 13 Miles from Ship'g, proceeded on — soon to the foot of another mountain very steep & high tho not very long what is curious on the

summit of this mountain the thirsty Traveller may refresh himself with excellent water Springing up amongst the Rocks just after passing the top of this mountain a very beautiful prospect opened below almost under a long range of well cultivated farms — this is part Valley fertile soil and a considerable quantity of land yet to be settled crossed some [illegible] creek, ascended or rather rose a distance down the Valley then arose the Tuscarora Mountain which divides the lower Cumberland County from Bedford arrived in the evening at the Burds Tavern plan called Fort Littleton 18 Miles, snowed great part of this day, 26th. soon found the snow deepening so fast that we determined against setting out, I began to think the snow here would be as frequent as the rain on the Susquehanna the Snow continuing we remained all day, a smart man had

fallen by night & I have been remiss in not mentioning the Departure of Capt Mercer who rec'd his dispatches and set off for Congress this 9th have reason to lament for since I set on this business I might justly complain of Ry want of assistants and confidence and by parting with Mercer lost one of the best, tho he was not altogether, for but more than other people, but upon the whole his heart & Inclination is good capable of friendship and disposed to rectitude and has a considerable share of my esteem he left us at Carlisle the day we set off I gave him my Cane Cherished one Rochefoucalts maxims a momento — 24th this morning cloudy cold D.o Blustering we set on came to foot of sideling hill 3 miles this country may mostly be settled but indifferent lands crossed the hill 8 Miles, 4 Miles brought us to Juniata here we dined this stream is large and very capable of turning Batteaus higher than this, must accord at Bidford Town the last 4 or 5 Miles we came over the flat of the Juniata here is Observe some handsome

fertile spots but not well improved now but very little cultivation of any kind but this Country especially the East of Juniatta at this Crossing is broken & very indifferent, at times when we were on the top of the mountains furnished with a most curious prospect, mountain behind and on top of mountain, lying parallel Obligue circular and in every form & shape and direction, Nature has at some time or other put forth an amazing family of mountains and planed them here we crossed Bloody Run 9 Miles from Bidford memorable for a most extraordinary Massacre of Men the year before last who were sent forward to cut the Road enmonth that the stream stained almost with their Crimson, Bedford is situate on the Juniatta consisting of about 40 or 50 houses in all some of which are handsome, the Situation is pretty and engaging but particularly Romantic surrounded by an irregular Chain of Mountains affording a most curious prospect, the Vale on which the Town is built is very fertile, here some Gentlemen of the place waited on & spent the evening with us agreeably entertained the 28th set off passed some good land and generally good road till we arrived at Ryans the foot Allegany 15 miles, 9 ought to observe upon the effect of a curious Phaenomenon 3 Miles west of Bidford, it happened last Spring appeared like a forcible Whirl wind the Breadth perhaps is 4 or 5 perches and in this there stands not a single tree other Broke or torn up by the Roots many are twisted off at the height of 20 or 30 feet and of the tops wound too and all by the force of Wind description in short cant effect its intention, We are now to ascend

up the Allegany, the first must say is very steep then more gradual to the Top where is a level plain a fine stream of Water and a pretty seat for a house & farme, the descent is very gradual much more than the ascent to the foot perhaps 12 Miles there to Stony Creek 5 Miles a Broken Country and little improved, arrived at Stony Creek about 8 o'Clock must not forget the Dreary dark & tremendous Forest we passed the last 3 Miles we were kindness Lower, the worst Road 27th this morning we set off dreary and very cold, crossed the Laurel hill, 6 miles over a Barren Rocky plain passed over Quemahoni Creek 9 miles from our departure from

to Ligonier where we arrived in the evening for lodging 12 Miles the country something better cultivated much cold this day the roads extremely bad, Ligonier one a post of Defence and on which the Frontier depended on very much for protection is now very much reduced, an indifferent Blockhouse is all the martial appearance at present remaining the buildings one pretty Commons somewhat respectable for this Country is now mouldering away here we found one Tavern, kept by Mr. Galbraith a despicable intoxicated Sot I just conceded with what was about him the situation is handsome the lands good, and the plan ought to flourish we were entertained with our Landlords death vaunts, 30. Set off for Hannahs Town the low part of the day in passing to Col. Porters crossed the Chesnut Ridge this hill commences at the 4 mile Run ascent steep stoney at the 9 Miles Run, stopped at Col. Porters he treated us hospitably, proceeded on arrived at Hannahs Town 6 O'clock this day we passed a tolerable Country not much broken near the Chesnut Ridge is all arable, but very few plantations which I was much damaged, this place is the Seat of Justice of Westmoreland County was destroyed by the Savages in 1782 under Captain Hamar who had about 30 regulars his party consisted in all of 298 after killing for & taking without losing as many, they set fire to every house in the town and burnt it down those killed were barbarously mangled & others taken too horrid to be forgotten, there is now a few houses rebuilt very indifferently, the situation is pretty & the country good, that adjacent to it and if the seat of Justice be continued here the town will probably advance and flourish in a few years the distance from this to Ligonier is 21 miles — Decem^r 1^st left Hannah Town with some expectations of arriving at Fort Pitt this day, Road thro a good Tract of Country some few plantations indifferently improved

tho I think the hills are rather too great a part, the bottoms being innumerable, but the high ground here is fertile and may be cultivated with ease — to Brushy Run 9 miles on the latter part of this night the Battle between Col^o Bouquet and the Indians was fought in 1764 in which the former suffered much but kept possession of his ground, at this Run is a deep morass of a considerable length very rich and valuable, the lands now grow better 5 or 6 miles more at Turtle Creek a Mill Stream this the Road runs with for several miles 3 or 4 on which is excellent bottom and of considerable breadth in many places, this Bottom must contain several 1000 Acres is luxuriant and hardly to be excelled in quality we now ascend this for high ground the Roads mind (which was but indifferent) and pass the ground on which Gen^l Braddock was defeated 8 Miles more Brad

dock's fields 10 more over 6 or 8 Miles of very good land to one Elliotts, here we stopped the evening being dark we agree to remain all night our Landlord a humorous fellow we contab, entertained us agreeably, I have been surprized continually at the accomodation in our public houses, the first Idea must impress you with a desperate opinion of your situation the Buildings small homely and dirty to an extreme, but I assure you their Tables & Beds surely are most flattering proofs their disposition to oblige on this to merit, also — 2^d many very rainy the land here is very flat and consequently rainy to an immoderate Degree joined the Allegany near down the Shore into Pittsburgh the Allegany South west runs a very great distance to the Eastward and is supplied generally by the Streams from the mountains

of that name, this River is above 200 yards over dise and the stream very current, near the Town this is a most beautiful straight River the trees appear as if laid down by line, arrived at Fort Pitt 12 O'Clock, The Town is situated on an Angle of land made by the Junction of the Monongahela River with the Allegany this angle is near 90 degrees of a Circle and of course the Monongahela runs about north course inclining little to East perhaps, this River is not quite so large as the Allegany nor so swift a current, & therefore practicable for Boating, up the River is very good Settlements and Country already beginning to flourish Down the River the Land is exceedingly good, near the Town, which consists of about 60. or 70 or more houses prettily compact regularly laid out, the Streets running parallel or crossing each other at right Angles, the buildings are of Wood generally squared Logs none elegant, the Some are tolerably convenient, the Situation being lower than any part of the adjacent Country, (excepting the River) is necessarily very muddy especially in the Streets that are frequented much, up the Allegany from the Town is a beautiful Level green common, in short the Situation of Pittsburgh is very engaging, between the Town and the Garrison which is down on the extremity of the Point a part of the common extends which affords a delightful little walk of 40 or 50 perches from the Town to the Fort, The Fort is a pentagonal form with large Bastions at each corner perhaps each side 150 yards long the Walls are built of Stone and brick very high surround

ed by a dry Trench in the Garrison is 4 Rows of Barracks an elegant magazine the whole work strong and handsome it would require 2 or 3000 men properly to man it when no one could possibly storm it - but there is no advantageous Ground for the Garrison to sally out on, but notwithstanding the Situation of the Works is good well finished and that at an extravagant expence to the Crown of Great Britain a moment to water to which was an excellent covered way, yet on every side it is commanded by height, so that one field piece on either shore might reduce the whole Garrison, I under that the very ground on which it stands must certainly in a very few years be intirely swept away by the flowings of both Rivers, this must convince every person the least acquainted with fortifications that the designs of the founders of Fort Pitt were other than the good of his Country or the reflect on his ignorance, The Fort is at present Garrisoned by

a few Maryland Troops commanded by one Capt Luckett a very [illegible] Gentleman, I remained in Fort Pitt till the 22d during which I spent my time very agreeably we had plenty of company and good sociable circles but lacked on the female side, this day I was to set off with the Goods for Detroit in a Batteau my name and for it proved, about 4 O'Clock moved off went 4 miles a Snow began to fall our Boat much overloaded and very leaky we put in at one Hamiltons to lodge, 23d in the morning a very deep snow had fell evenly cold the River full and during night immense cakes of congealed Snow so imbodied by above of our Batteau a part of our load with much difficulty made shift to get out into the stream and for a while, I could in the stream drove every way by the Ice till about 8 or 9 O Clock we were drove on Ground 14 miles down the River from Pitt the Ice driving tumultuously soon accumulated

against the side of our Boats to a great height and threaten instant destruction of the whole we endeavoured to remove her in vain and every minute found our State more and more desperate, to remove the Boat was now not thot on to abandon it I could'nt think of, my attachment to the preservation of the Goods taught me remain with them and meet to fate, I first sent the pilate to break the Ice and make his way to shore with orders to run to the next house 2 miles off for a Canoe to assist us, this when he got on shore he declared against attempting the rest of the Hands were ordered to follow him, the water was 4 or 5 feet deep most of the way and carried by this time with a thick ice and freezing extremely, two now agreed to go for the Canoe, this was first by the man who owned it refused to venture out, the men returned their Clothes frozen around them but with a great deal of reflection and fortitude struck up a fire to preserve themselves, our situation was fixed and we were determined to make the best of it Cap Armstrong was chearfull I was much depressed having in addition to my safety that of the Boat for our Boat was now fastened to that degree that unless the River should rise she could hardly move but that was quite improbable we find ourselves for rest at last, I slept little but not so cold as I expected, In the morning 24th I was transported with the pleasing sight of a recent form Bridge and now had the first hopes of saving the Load, but found the Ice was not strong but of this experience soon informed us and on shore we went a morning colder than this I scarcely ever experienced, I detached our pilate with a Note to Major Tunney with an account our melancholy praying

relief, we were now out of provisions all hands and no houses come atable within 8 miles and the snow very deep, we are now waitingly patiently for assistance from the Garrison in the afternoon 2 packhorsemen came to our Camp and told us they had taken up our messenger 4 miles off sitting down ready to fall asleep, his feet frozen and his strength exhausted, the Cold rather increasing the snow 14 or 15 inches, this circumstance convinces me of the truth that sleep, the painless traveller with her flattering delusions lulls in eternal mantle of sleep covers him — but why do I touch such an observation to say — this was tragical news to us increased, hunger fastening on us more and more severe and suffering very much from the extremely cold weather, and no certainty that our next messenger would be more successful — however we pre-

vailed upon the packhorseman to one of his horses that we might find another found for the Brigantine, the next morning 24th the man started early we had doubts of his success and weighed the event of a miscarriage found it truly alarming Cap Armstrong agreed to second the undertaking himself and I urged it this morning the hand unloading the Boat found a small piece of raw meat lying in the bottom this was divided and I eat my share ravenously without bread vegetable or any but the meat alone I was now alone disconsolate and more unhappy than I yet had been however in the morning M Rubings came up on his way from M Intosh having left his boat below by reason of the Ice this was a most pleasing appearance to me he being a man for whom I could safely trust the

Goods and he also helpd me to a little victuals being am almost famish'd as at last much indued in strength & spirit, this night I wrote to Pittsburgh, 25.ᵗʰ this morning I forwarded on Hulings to remain with the Boat and I'd move off for the Fort M'Intosh & accordingly about noon having loaded 9 pack horses which I had just for with the most valuable things I got a hunters horse & proceeded on but some difficulty in finding the road and arrived at the Garrison 4 O'Clock, on the evening of a whole life may can the human heart posture a greater transition or greater difference in prospect, from famine cold and desperation to comparably plenty and almost heaven: and I was instantly on my arrival surrounded by my most friends mostly rejoicing to see me welcomed ten times over every thing handed me for refreshment and those taken

into the dining room where was spread a grand & most sumptious dinner, and a cheerful and elegant circle of Guests the luxurious ~~may the~~ of Philadelphia would hardly outstrip, a most delectable scene to me indeed I enjoyed myself contrary to my most flattering hopes spent my Christmas very happily, in the morning returned to lodging as illiney as I ever found myself — 26.ᵗʰ arose cloudy Fort M'Intosh was built in 79 & 80 by a Brig.ᵈ Gen.ˡ of that name, its situation is on the north side of the Ohio 300 yards from the Allegheny on a beautiful commanding Spot distance 30 miles from Pittsburgh the Work is built of Wood in a pentagonal form with small Bastions at each corner the buildings are made very strong and handsome as could be expected and incase + this was a mistake M'Intosh is only four sided

at the same time for Barracks and fortifications will accommodate a Regiment conveniently, of at present of 1000 men, — I got by this time myself and with lodging be for very comfortably, but much concerned about the Gods the Comᵗʳˢ not having arrived yet, but step step I am a great way before my subjects, and back I must go — I spoke sometime ago of Genˡ Clarke — he is originally from Virginia a very celebrated Partizan against the Indians in the late War, and besides now in his train, I presume for my own satisfaction to enjoy the outlines of the Genˡ — as I find him — his stature and Constitution good are, and I believe his Judgement to be so by nature, but 'tis a lamentable truth that all these joined with the fortune and

are likely to fall a sacrifice
reputation & every thing dear and valuable in life, to his unconquerable fondness for strong Drink but why do I say this 'tis unchantable had I omited it — and shewed the sunshine side of his character would have been liberally sociable entertaining and in his sphere informing but alas! ~~but I grieve~~ and again which is unpardonable in me, I forgot to mention that on our arrival in Pittsburgh, the Contᵈ Commᵗʳˢ determined against holding the Treaty at Cayahoga the appointed place which is the reason I am now at M'Intosh this disposition was favorable to our expedition and fortunate for the Country I am now confident had we attempted the former plan we should have found it impracticable and disappointed ourselves the Country and the Indians

this revolution in the concerted plan was I am told, carried much against the Judgement and pleasure of a Character from Penn: a who one should think ought to know better a —— for him on my book — until now I'm up all things straight and happy[illegible] myself with a set of worthy clever fellows their hospitality and unequaled kindness I must ever gratefully remember & bear every grain of that fund of gratitude I'd Jefferson myself to possess I now speak of the officers of Col.o Barnes Regt. this day I was fully entertained with the novelty of the plan and inviting my acquaintance in their respective Messes, 27.th this being St. John's day the Masons agreed to dine together which separated and cut up the tables at night we all met to close the day but a

Jealousy or I don't know what else which often prevails between those of and those not of the fraternity Jumb'd to extend here and on the wining the Masons were for announcing their Toasts with discharge of a Cannon this was opposed by Maj. Tinney who was commanding Officer of the other side, but at comm.d of Capt Douglass was nevertheless fired, at this Major was amazingly offended ordered out the Garrison drove off the Artillery how loud words Swords drawn better shelter the Devil to pay I looked very minute for the most serious consequences the Soldiers were disposed of at length but the Gentlemen were all this time at the highest and most fierce language May Tinney arrested Capt Douglass for his conduct and after a considerable time the disputes subsided

this gave us all great deal of unhappiness but soon ended for St. John's day —— 28.th Maj Tinney being determined to show strictly to order honor and Discipline was by no means relaxed this morning but on the contrary compliment Capt M.Gordon Sworn on arrest for his conduct the preceding evening also, the particular transactions of these Gent.s in this affair I have purposely avoided here, time passed on lightly - 29.th the State Comm.rs arrived they had in consequence of report of the Skipper of our Boat conceived I had acted very improperly this gave me much uneasiness when I was conscious of having acted at the risk of my life in the best manner possible (in those circumstances) for preservation of the Boat, but these conceptions I soon

dislodged by representing the matter by fact for the insidious scoundrel had spread the most abominable falsities that could be thot on to screen himself but was all vain'd by Capt Armstrong myself and every one in the party - 30.th 31st extremely cold weather entertained myself with shooting Rifle and sliding be with the Officers — January 1. 1785. huzza for the New Year this seems to be a[illegible] of yesterday and the day before only the Indians began now to come in their Dress how much like that of the 6 nations Viz a Cap short shroud tucked Coat leggings & moggasins but their Colour is darker and their features & conduct more Savage but close I must enter my protest to the cond.t Gen.l Butler this morning at supper him the Sec.y

Commissioners had a warm dispute about the transportation of the Goods in the Boat & came from Pitt in during which I said something in my defence for he designed to use me extremely illiberal of occasion offers I'll reiterate on this perhaps all the audience gave it against him as far as I could learn, 2d: M.r Hutchins a principle during this time set from Fort Pitt in a Boat (the River having risen to float us to Sea) took the remainder of the Boat Load of our Goods and arrived safe 7 Miles above M.r Wolcott with the Ohio being frozen all save a small channel in the middle the Goods were unloaded at the Ice 150 yards from Shore and when we had 2/3 of the load on Shore the rest on the Ice and the ice rolling them to shore the Ice around us to the Area of an Acre & upwards broke from its confines and began to float

rapidly cracking and roaring hideously we were most all on the Ice consisting of myself and a fatigue party 12 Soldiers some ran to the Shore and by leaping made land others too far off to the Boat which immediately got by this new fashioned conveyance and boarded her to save their lives I was of the former part and just time enough to get off & that the Devil had got in the river sure enough but however after floating 20 or 30 perches the Cake lodged on a Sand Bar without breaking and then we got off the Goods so above M.r Ohio for you've been as hard as you could be with me — 3d we have now formed a mess in which all of both Commissions eat together as also the Gentlemen and the Officers of the Reg.t day about in a Close a Jovial round and seems to flatter me with a happy time of it, from the time I think

Sensibility began to increase Gen.l Butler notwithstanding his treatment towards me now appears sublime with his politeness but I know his heart pretty well and we shall &c I ought not to dismiss this subject without mentioning that when I was attacked on the first instant the Commissioners eagerly embarked in my defence and suffered not a word to come unanswered upon me, this I gratefully remember but they had propriety on their side — the Indians continue to come in but not a full representation — from this to the 8.th nothing extraordinary happened this day I am informed we are to have a Council — The Commissioners deliver a Speech calculated to introduce the business informing them what had been done to the Northward with their Uncles the Six Nations (for so they call them) congratulated them on their arrival, the Indians returned some complimentary answer The State Commissioners was then introduced and announced to the Indians by the Cont.l Comm.rs and informed that they had come to transact some public business with them on the part of their State, Col.o Allen was desirous of speaking a few words but Gen.l Butler fearing to share dignity chose to do it himself — dismist now; 9.th I have until now been busily employed in repairing my Tent for reception of myself and Goods and is nearly completed so that it will be warm and comfortable, and I promise myself a very agreable Situation this I disputed with the assistance of the Soldiers and by our industry the Articles that had got wet coming down the River gave me much trouble in drawing and drying another Council to day no Council after Council till the 21. when the business was

compleated a Copy of their proceedings I have 22d limited in discribing of the Goods the two thousand Dollars the consideration agreed on not requiring all our Cargo of Goods 23d at same employ and delivered out the Goods to them 24th engaged in discovery of the remainder of our Goods, which we did to Capt Brodhead 25th took leave of the Gentlemen of Pittsburgh & set off very cold met with much difficulty in crossing Beaver Creek about a dozen Indian fellows Settlers merrily arrived at Fort Pitt 3 oClock this County upwards of 30 miles is very valuable Cows Bullocks & Sowsbelly in particular hardly can be equaled 26th spent time seeing my acquaintance in Pitt the Gentn set off having some business to transact busy in compleating it ready to set out for Philadelphia to morrow

27th this morning Capt Ball & Self started for Philadelphia parted amicably hard and arrived at Hannahs-town road very Bad weather extremely Cold, 28th Capt Stokely waited us to Col Proctors lodged at Legmer 29th to Stony Creek, 30 a great snow having fallen we set out but attempting the Creek it being very deep and during with Ice Capt Ball was unfortunately thrown in his horse also thrown down by the Ice however Ball got disengaged from his horse last his hat and with much difficulty made shore he had no exertion to spare & had the stream been a little more severe he would not landed this side of the Elysium fields, the morning was extremely cold and by the time we returned to the horse Ball hung very well was nearly frozen

we set about preparing for another March about one O'Clock we made another and more successful attack upon Stony Creek proceeding now up the Allegany Mountain arrived in the evening at Staals' on the top of the Mountain about 9 miles from Stony Creek this was absolutely the most severe day I ever travelled and having to break the road near all the way you may rest assured we suffered very much, here the family were very kind and disposed to make our situation as agreable as we could expect, Ball & one had some unease encounters with the girls, 31 set out the morning road but had drifted very much so that little had no appearance of a road and very deep had very much difficulty and at two or three times was almost out of hopes to succeed contenually leaving the road and the snow so exceeding deep that we expected our Carriers would give out but we persevered finding it something better arrived at Bedford in the evening 22 miles having broke the road most all the way - here while we were eating and enquiring ourselves what we most feared some to pass, Butler Lowry Campbell and fort overtook us they laughed at us Ball damn'd Stony Creek and reflected on his fortune here we were determined to have some wine and some we had and enjoyed a very happy evening —

February 1. an extreme keen morning arrived at Littleton in the evening a great days ride 35 miles, 2nd set out for

for Shippensburgh last our way in the Path Valley
the high valley Mountain is a most pleasant on the North
to be sure a road hardly ever crossed the like before
poor Campbell had gone out in going up it, arrived at
Cap. Pipers in the evening an excellent not one perhaps
preferable to Latimer Philad.a and Pittsburgh had
a sumptuous supper finding ourselves in Christian
Country were much happyfied, Tuesday 3.d started with
a few miles of Carlisle met sundry Sleighs coming out
to meet us we turn'd back and at moment route, there
was two miss M.r Miss Butler Coffee ladies, we agreed
to leave our horses get in the Sleighs with the ladies, in
our way the Sleigh Driver continuing on the one next
before it ran against them turned down their horses ran and
them broke their Sleigh and played the Devil — however and
got them righted, and entered Carlisle in the evening compleatly
of Bottles glasses having cracked I suppose in mending up
again, M.r Campbell has cash a long while at his head
I guess he's for seeing Polly to day it may be observed
that she and her sister came out when I believe they
did'nt expect their Brother nor any connection
nearer than Campbells he went to meeting with them
I went but staid only a little while — 3.d set out in
Company with Dan.l Sherman and Bell for Philad.a
got into Middleton 25 Miles a town scated a small distance
from the Susquehanna on the road leading from Philad.a to Lanc.

74

on Carlisle and consists of about 100 houses built along the
road an indifferent appearance, 6.th set on for Lancaster
when we arrived early in the evening passed some very
good Country one little Town called Elizabeth thriving place
Lancaster is the largest and most beautiful inland town
I have seen scated in an excellent Country mostly
Germans who generally inhabit the Towns also and con
sequently neither a fashionable polite nor hospitable
place in the eye of a stranger, the town is well
laid out the streets for the most part wide and some
of them paved there are a great number Taverns here
and travellers have good entertainment — 7.th set on

passed the most elegant Country in the world scarcely
level and well improved passed New Holland a small
town built along the road considerable number of houses
scated in a low Muddy place we thought little pay
or elegance arrived in safety at my Fathers our friends
there all, 9.th my horse being grown lame got a fresh
horse and started in strong hopes of compleating my jour
found the road extremely bad, and in the most adverse
Philad.a having a journey of between 16.& 17.00 miles
have had a Delicious hazardous & fatiguing Tour
but had the good fortune to be attended with health
success in my undertaking & credit in discharge of my
duties and a pleasing opportunity of seeing a great

75

of the interior part of the United States — took lodgings at the Coffee House, & found myself afflicted with a bad Cold and much fatigued and from as fatigued and unwell a state for seeing my friends — this complaint much to my happiness finding a cordial welcome at my return — continued on the business of the Treaty preparing the accounts and recording the minutes which I completed by the 7th of march — by this time I had a promise of an appointment from the Surveyor Genl to a District & to that turn of my attention — in April the General land office law having passed; the Assembly arose who had been sitting some time before my return — I found by this law that a District in the Donation Lands was the most eligible therefore was this month Commissioned to survey District No 3 of said lands — now throng in preparing to set out on my appointment — May 17th and I suppose myself

compleatly ready set out for Pittsburgh my companions Brother when in arrived the beginning of June — found reports from the Indian Country so very unfavorable that determined very much from going into it May Alexander Esqr Lodge & myself concluded to defer our commencing on the business till the 15th of September — this manner they importuned me into for Duplicate gave up my resolution to go to the woods it may be observed is not foreign to the subject that Genl Irvine Agent for the State & proprietors of those lands was at this time in Pitt just setting out to explore the Country — May Alexander communicate his proposal for adjourning the business as aforementioned, to him, which he Altogether concurred with & encouraged, — Esqr Henderson arrived here 10th Instant June on his way out to his District. I accompanied him returned in 8 days by this time May Story arrived who was commissioned to settle the Accounts the Citizens of this County & the United States — & Engaged with him on the 19th instant I went round by Wheeling to meet the Major

Washington the seat of Justice for Washington County. Spent a very agreable time at Mr Intosh 27th arrived at Washington This Town consists of 60 or 80 Houses of one sort or other & shows very fast being only about 2 years old. this County is very large but a large extent of it as from Steubenville westward to Ohio is scarcely settled a sign of improvement other parts very thinly settled the face of the Country is very uneven but generally fertile, we continued doing business here for about a month during which time I lived very happily got the acquaintance of Mr Crawford the other Clerk in office removed from thence to Union Town Capital of Fayette County this place is much above somewhat larger & more respectable in appearance than Washington, the County is abundantly fertile & well adapted for aggriculture in every respect — lived here till 20th August very destitute of society

thence to Pitt — here we found this little world like a hive full of people hurly burly every thing on the go great number of Surveyors & their Commissioners &c — nevertheless at business with them till 10th September by this time had made very necessary preparative set out immediately to the Woods with my hands in Company with Capt Sedgwick at surveying and roving thro the wilderness in a very unhappy forlorn situation till 8th October when Mr Crawford a Deputy I had employed arrived with his hands from this post we carried on merrily till the last of the month when we were struck with meeting with any capital accident or misfortune — during this time my Indian hunter supplied me plentifully with Venison which was our staple provision — the cold Ground our bed the Sky our canopy & the Boughs of spreading Trees our pavillion around, but notwithstanding this I never did nor do I expect to enjoy more perfect health

than I did all this time; — Pittsburgh Nov.r 1 found that the Surveyors at the Continental Land for fear of the Savages had made no progress in their business — Set on my way home, had a tolerable journey, arrived in Philad.a 13.th instant — Found all my affairs had stood Clear still during my absence not a farthing of money paid by my Cr. either — returned to my old lodgings at Mayor Howells — continued making out my returns &c.a

May 18.1785 Wrote to Mr Jn.o Vaughan of South Carolina informing him that I sent by Capt Allibone 160 Dollars in full of his Certificates now in my hands to be left agreable to his order at Geo Parkers Esq.r in Charleston inclosing the following bill of the sales of said Certificates &c.a Viz.t

Philad.a Aug.t 28.th 1785

Sold on account of Griffith Evans

A Depreciation Certificate funded on Claim dated in favour of John Vaughan late Lieut.t 5.th Penn.a for £129. 6. 3 at 26/8 £.p cent.m £ 34. 16. 7

Ann.l final settlement Certificate ~~dated~~ £13. 17. 4 3. 2. 5

£ 47. 6. 12 37. 19. 0

Comm.n at 10 p.r Cent 3. 16. 2

Copy Thos Fearon £ 27. 12. 10

At the same time I buy the same specie & wrote to Geo Parker Esq.r as follows

Phil.a May 18. 1785

To Geo Parker Esq.r Merch.t Charleston

Capt Allibone will deliver you 160 Spanish milled Dollars for Mr Jn.o Vaughan which you will please to give him immediate Advice of

Your Hble Servt

Copy G Evans

1784 Sept 14 Rec.d of Col.o Johnston £28.4.2 on Acct paid carrying Numbr 1/

Sept 13 Marked my parcels mark'd E to distinguish it from Majr Montgomerys which he is now taking —

J. Pintard

Note There is one more Mistake & for Hollow & Holster more than is mentioned in the Invoice

Oct.r 23 found only four plain Hatts in the Barrel No 2 and not 6 as Invoice calls for

16 Cloth called in the Invoice scarlet is very ordinary & for inferior Coat.a not Scarlet — The Blankets also very bad

The Shirts & Blankets &c only a part instead of 6 paid as the Invoice calls for

26 pursuant to directions sold 2 Hammocks Tent &c for 40/ & delivered a Trunk to Lieut.t Livingston

Nov 23d Rec'd 100 Dollars of Col Johnston on Acct
Nov 16th Rec'd 100 Dollars of Do. ——— Pr

Left Francois-Le 4 janvier 1783 #4

Miss Ruth Lee, president of the Illinois
Federation of Women's Clubs, has just announced
the appointment of Mrs. Jesse Hall Wright as
chairman of the Illinois committee for the
Pan American Congress of Women to be held
in Lima, Peru, in October, 1924. Mrs. Wright
is a member of the Woman's Club of Evanston
and the Evanston Historical Society.

Mrs. Wright is the granddaughter of
Governor Joseph Duncan, who was governor
of Illinois from 1834 to 1838.

(Copy)

Detroit January 1st 1793

Sir,

Just as I was sending off an Express your Dispatches arrived. You should have heard from me before but, that I waited a confirmation of the Situation of Affairs in the Indian Country, and the return of Scouts from Fort Pitt, which were detained by the badness of the weather — My Last acquainted you that we had advanced as far as the Standing Stone — I now have the pleasure to inform you that they did not find Enemy than destroy the Deserted Villages, Houses and Packs near the Glaize, and killed five — Since which our People have seen none — This sudden Retreat I attribute to their having no Provision with the Army from Fort Scouts informs one was dispersed by an order from Should this not be the Forerunner of a Peace we shall, in all probability, have warm work in the Indian Country the ensuing Campaign — It therefore gives me pleasure to hear that a Reinforcement may be expected in the Spring, and, of your readiness to give me every assistance in your Power — I shall only call upon you in case of necessity — The two Companies of the 34th, and two Companies of Rangers, or one more at least, would be necessary to be here in readiness, if it were only to keep up the drooping spirits of the Indians, who begin to fear they are to be the dupes of the War — I must request of you to mention to Lieut. Colonel Butler, that it would be of great detriment to the Service should Capt. Caldwell be relieved or called away upon any occasion from this Post — he is au fait of the Indian Country, and the Indians are fond of him.

217

The

The Weather set in here more severe than has been ever known — On the 5th Instt the Wind shifting from West to S.W. West, Farenheits Thermometer fell from Forty-one to three, which is thirty eight degrees in twelve hours — It is therefore no wonder the Vessels put back to Fort Erie — — Your Letters shall be forwarded in a few days for Michilimackinac, when I shall give Capt Robertson such information and hints as may be necessary for him to have from this Post — The Indians which came with your Express I wish to detain untill I can give them an opportunity of seeing some of our Copper Coloured Gentry; It will be of infinite service they should have a meeting.

Mr. Alexandr. McKee is not yet come in, owing to the Roads having for some time past been almost impassable.

Mr. Tucker, the Ottawa Interpreter, is the Bearer of this Packet, he promises me that barring unforseen Accidents he will deliver it to you in Twelve days.

(Signed) A. S. De Peyster

Brigr. Genl. Maclean.

Copy of a Letter from
Major De Peyster to
Brig.r General Maclean,
Dated at Detroit January
7.th 1793

Extract of a Letter from Captain Grant to Brigr. General Maclean, dated at Detroit January 6th. 1793 —

"Tho' the Vessel I mentioned to you last fall went to the Penisy, did not return till few days before New Year's Day, She had been catched in the Ice and remained there the first soft weather gave us an opportunity of getting her to the Wharf —

"We have as pleasant and as mild a Winter as ever I saw in America, That with the number of the Department absent will prevent my collecting the quantity of Timber I expected, The severer this weather the better for working in the Woods" —

"I shall have the new Vessel launched some time in March if the Weather continues as kind as it has been. — I propose as soon as our Carronades, &c. arrives, to mount fourteen twelve Pounders on board the new Vessel, and fourteen Nines on board the Gage, and Ten four pounders Guns on board the Faith, Two Row Gallys one Eighteen pounder Carronade in each, two of a smaller size, one four pounder Gun in each — I apprehend barring accidents, we shall have Vessels sufficient for the Transportation exclusive of the above Squadron — Seamen, and Soldiers for Manning, I shall look to you for" —

Continuation of Letters from Colonel Guy Johnson from Capt. Sc

Montreal 11th January 1783

Sir

I am to acknowledge the favor of receiving by your Excellency's orders a Copy of the Report and remarks of the Board on the Accounts of Messrs. Taylor and Forsyth which I so long wished for and to which I have presumed to subjoin such Answers and illustrations as will, I trust, appear reasonable on a liberal construction, all which shall be forwarded by the first safe conveyance, as the Packet is large. In the mean time I humbly conceive it to be an act of Justice, I owe to myself to lay before your Excellency the inclosed papers as a means of being reimbursed for my severe disappointments and losses on that Subject, and also those formerly furnished Detail of part of my transactions, these and other circumstances are highly necessary considerations to the Justification of my whole conduct as well as to the right understanding of the matter in dispute, I therefore humbly entreat your Excellency's attention to the following particulars, as well for the foregoing reasons, as because they will bear the strictest scrutiny, and that they need not be again repeated.

After having served as a Captain in the Provincial Forces to the end of the Campaign 1758 and purchased a Lieutenancy in His Majesty's Army the Succeeding Year, the Opportunities I had with the late Sir William Johnson had enabled me for his Guidance to make myself well acquainted with the History, Politicks, Customs, manners and transactions of the Indians. I was at his desire and with the Approbation of Lord (then Sir Jeffery) Amherst appointed by Commission Sir Williams immediate deputy for the Six united Nations in 1762 & afterwards particularly recommended by him to be his Successor in Office, to which I was called by the Kings Letter shortly after Sir Williams decease in 1774. I entered on the Command of the Department as it is well known, at a very critical period when every endeavor was made use of, and every Instrument employed to alienate the affections of the Indians from His Majesty's Interests the most necessary Step the discontented could take to ensure success to their

future

future endeavors, Being the first Magistrate in that Country, and Colonel of the Militia, and possessed of a valuable landed Estate, used every means in my power to prevent the Inhabitants from being seduced by the Contagion of Opposition, which began to spread thro' the Colonies in which I was alone supported by Sir John Johnson and Colonel Clause, and at length drew up and carried a paper thro' the Grand Jury, wherein they expressed their resolves to support the Government and the Laws (in March 1775) which was of much use for a time, for on my return from New York being then a Representative in Assembly) and having received a Letter from Captain Robert Mackenzie of the 43d Regiment then in Philadelphia collecting Intelligence for Government, as well as Letters from others, Communicating the design of Congress to make me Prisoner, as a necessary measure previous to their further proceedings. I found the Inhabitants ready to defend my Person and having fortified my House, above two hundred of them regularly attended for the space of fourteen days for my protection, during which time they were maintained in every Article at my Expence, for which I have never yet been reimbursed: during this interval, by the dexterity of Mr. John Stedman, I received a Dispatch and Instructions from the Commander in Chief in secret writing, corresponding so perfectly with my own ideas, as the Country adjacent was then in a ferment and my communication with the Indians cut off, that I put it into Execution with all Secrecy and dispatch and on the last day of May at the head of about Nine Indians and 120 White Men who chose to follow me, I marched to Fort Stanwix collected some Indians, and having sent Expresses to Niagara and Montreal for Goods and Provisions, proceeded for Oswego, where I convened the Six Nations of whom 1150 shortly arrived and entered into a Treaty, for supporting their Ancient Engagements with the Crown, securing the Frontiers and Communications, & acting afterwards as the Service should require; at the same time Ten Chiefs of the Nations who had been summoned the Year before attended, who

on having the circumstances relating to the troubles fully explained to them joined heartily in the Cause and gave assurances which very much influenced their conduct since, it being notorious to all acquainted with Indian Affairs that the Fidelity and Conduct of the Indians in the North boundary of Lake Erie depends on that of the Six Nations, and it was not admitted in the Indian War of 1763, that the Senecas almost alone seduced and influenced the measure which Pontiac declared, and they were forced to acknowledge in Congress at Oswego in 1766. At the period of my marching to Detroit the Department being on the Peace Establishment wanted many Officers, whilst the dispatch and Secrecy required, did not afford an Opportunity of getting some Persons that could have been useful, a few were taken from such as accompanied me, and if there was any backwardness in any, it did not influence my measures. Accordingly proceeded for Montreal at the desire of General Carleton, and altho I could not procure Craft sufficient for transporting the Fifth part of the Indians assembled, yet many afterwards followed, and I was enabled in July 1775 to collect 1700 of which near 1300 were men. They received the Hatchet in Public meeting some time after, to be used for ours, and their support as they should be directed, but not to be exercised with wanton cruelty, and a few of them having been permitted to cover Fort Johns, assisted the first division of Montgomerys Army with some loss on the 6th of September, and retarded his advances for near a fortnight, sometime before this Action, the Indians lived in inactivity in this neighbourhood, and having to provide for their Families winter subsistence, for the most part returned to their own Country. — Without entering into any other particulars of that Campaign, I shall only add that the General having signified to me that I was to the necessary authority for commanding the Indians, and that I should discharge the White Men &c I found it inconsistent with my own honor, the good of the Service, or my influence and Interest with the Indians to remain, but chose that Season when my Service could not be necessary to assign for that authority, without which I should not have accepted of the Office as I could not discharge its

duties

duties resolving to return time enough for the operations of the ensuing campaign previous to my departure I obtained permission for some young Officers to winter in the Indian Country and proceeded with the Officer Mr Butler to select for that purpose, taking no person with me but my Secretary, a Commanded Officer and two Servants, the other Gentlemen Having obtained permission and determined on going to Europe long before, among them was the late Captain Butler whose father had desired to send him over for his improvement, and the late Ensign Peter Johnson, both recommended by General Carleton to the Secretary at War. I should not have been so particular upon this head had I not good reason to believe that the contrary has been represented to your Excellency, I should therefore be wanting in Justice to myself If I neglected clearing up this point to you Sir, when it is so easily in my power to prevent a great misrepresentation.

I obtained my Commission in England and was ordered to New York on the prospect of a movement up Hudsons River to which the Six Nations could have greatly contributed by a Junction on the way to Albany, the Campaign 1776 terminated with the Reduction of New York and the Troops, and Ships directed to send Messages to the Indians to prepare them for the operations of the succeeding Season to which favorable Answers were received from the Indians, and from Lieutenant Colonel Butler, as can at any time appear from his Letters in my hands, in which he expresses his and their readiness to make the Junction required, and for that purpose a large Cargo of Indian Clothing and Arms was sent to New York early in 1777, but of this Junction Government was disappointed as well as myself which determined me in October of that Year to solicit his Majesty's Ministers and the Southern General for leave to go to Canada from whence I might be serviceable against the Frontiers & In 1778 I repeated my wishes to which I particularly added the satisfaction I should feel in serving under your Excellencys Command, but it was late in September on that Year

before

before I could be sent off by which means (with many others) I had the mortification of being compelled to Winter at Halifax, where I was the ensuing Spring farther disappointed of the Vessel ordered to convey me, (by the Projected expedition) and constrained to purchase Boat and a Stage that cost me £700, which on going up the Country was sold for £300, and for which I have never been reimbursed.

Your Excellency will doubtless recollect that on my arrival at Quebec I solicited earnestly to go to my Duty, and that I lost no time in doing so after obtaining your permission. — On my arrival in Canada I found that the Accounts of Expenses in my Department were no longer kept by the Officer presiding over it. That the Merchant at Niagara kept these Accounts, and the Commanding Officer of that Post drew Bills for their Amount, That there was a good confidence reposed in the House, and that it had a good support of Capital, which I thought the more necessary, being sensible that it was impracticable for a man so little versed in Trade as myself, or perhaps for any man, to discharge the encreased duties with which the then State of Affairs threatned my Office, and at the same time pay much attention to other peoples Accounts, but altho I could have wished they had been kept as formerly by the Superintendant, I resolved to make no difficulties, only presuming to wish for more important employment, which there was reason to expect, as at that Time the Country of the five Nations was for their loyalty invaded by a Rebel Army too powerfull in all probability to be opposed with success, which must eventually encrease the business with the Indians beyond what had ever been experienced, as before that Time the Confederacy had lived undisturbed on their own Valuable Settlements, the nearest of which was about 100, and the farthest about 300 Miles from Niagara, having within themselves most of the necessaries of Life, with plenty of Implements of Husbandry, Utensils, Silver Ornaments &c, the collection of many Years, and consequently they had only to require a few repairs and some occasional favors to keep up their Stock, neither did they resort to Niagara (particularly during the Year

1776

1776) but on very small bodies where they remained but a very short time, and this was pretty much the case the two Succeeding Years, as can be fully proved, so that the trouble and Expence should have been a more trifle in comparison with what it became indispensibly necessary when they left their Country and were compeled to reside there; And here I ought to Remark that the Indians who had been secured there my Endeavors as the Letters in my hands from Congress and many Individuals can shew, at a period when neither such endeavors they would have been effectually seduced to the Rebel Interest) were left by me jointly attached, altho on their finding the Success of the Rebel Arms in Canada many of them prudently wailed for a change, being alarmed for their own safety, yet as soon as they could discover a prospect of support, they entered heartily into their former Allegiance and in fact required very little Arguments to induce them to it. This Circumstance I have been induced to take notice of because I am well assured that (with other matters) it has been long misrepresented, and that it is my Duty to State facts to your Excellency in whose justice I have a thorough confidence when these facts are known. I have likewise dwell on the comparative view of Indian Affairs and Expences previous to my arrival at Niagara with that since, because I humbly conceive it has not met with all the attention on that score to which it has an undoubted Claim, as this Extraordinary change in their Affairs, was not only the natural source of all Extraordinaries, but the principal cause of those irregularities for which Accounts have been so much faulted by those who were Strangers, to the new and uncommon Situation of Affairs there, a Change so great and a case so Singular that it has not its parralel in the whole Compass of the Indian History. — On my arrival at Niagara I found that Confederacy which had been hitherto unsubdued flocking to it as an Asylum, being compeled to retire from their Country leaving every thing behind them. Altho their precipitate Retreat had evidently produced all the Effects of a Panic among them

and

and rendered that period very critical. Nevertheless lost no time in collecting and proceeding with some of them to Oswego to assist in an Enterprize which could it have been undertaken at South Carolina might have proved of much importance. On my return to Niagara I used all possible means to reduce the Number of Indians on the ground then Amounting to near 4000 Souls and prevailed so far as to bring them to less than 3000 in a few days by sending them to winter at the only two Towns & three small Villages, which lying out of the Road, had escaped the fury of the Rebels whilst a few were persuaded to go to Carleton Island. It should be here observed that the Rebels the better to devide the Indians, whilst their main Body approached thro the heart of the Country had sent a large Body from Fort Pitt to Cuil of the Lowest Villages that lay on the heads of the Allegany River, and had driven the Indians from thence and destroyed their Settlements reducing them to the necessity of relying for Subsistence to the Two remaining Towns and Villages already mentioned, which accession of people reduced the latter to hardships, they severely felt for a considerable time afterwards -- Having been referred by your Excellency as to the Subject of my Accounts &c to Lieutenant Colonel Bolton who before my arrival approved the Accounts, and drew the Bills for my Department, on application to him expressly told me that it was not in his power to investigate them, That there was but one Account allowed of. That this was done by the Merchant, and when made up was brought to him for approbation, with other particulars formerly mentioned to your Excellency; Thus circumstanced I gave such orders as I thought best calculated for preventing abuses and promoting Economy, & finding the Indian Store exhausted, agreable to my Orders for purchasing Goods it appeared necessary in his presence and Lieut Colo Butlers to Sign an engagement for a Cargo of Goods, agreable to an Invoice produced by the Merchant, part of which goods I immediately received, & the remainder some time after, and I continued that practice afterwards as by that means I knew at once, the State of all large Engagements. - In the mean time the Indians having somewhat recovered from the effects produced by their

Cale

late disaster. I used every Argument with their Chiefs to shew them necessity there was for their convincing the Rebels that their Spirit was not subdued, which had so good an effect, that early in Feb.y 1780, I sent several hundreds of them against the Frontiers who were successful without cruelty likewise defeated the purpose of the Rebel Embassy, then sent with plausable offers to seduce them from the British Interest, and finding the Cherokies and Catawbaw Nations who were still attached to the Rebels, were so situated as to cover their Frontier, whilst they obstructed intelligence, and the success of parties on their Coast, the Indians in General being unwilling to determine a part of their own Confederacy, I sent such a message privately from myself to them that they shortly after joined me to the number of 624, of which above 120 were men, who at the lowest ebb of Rebellion had rejected every endeavour to withdraw them from that Interest, and who have since particularly distinguished themselves in our cause, as I can fully make appear. After this I received the Covenant and War Belts and sent them thro the Nations to the Westward which produced very happy effects, from the predominating influence of the Six Nation Confederacy, which was used to have been admitted and may likewise be demonstrated; All this was followed by such a series of successfull Services performed by very numerous parties, as procured me the repeated honor of your Excellency's approbation and intentions to represent the same to His Majesty in terms the most flattering to a Zealous Officer, whose primary object was to merit the Character of an useful & faithful Servant to the Crown; with this view I more than once humbly offered my Services on a more active line, which I should have gratefully entered upon with the utmost pleasure under any Rank allowed, or conferred upon me, but I was not so happy as to succeed, Altho the American War furnished many Instances of persons appointed to good Rank in the Provincial Line, whom I may hope I may be allowed to say had not better capacity or pretensions; Had I been capable of procuring any difficulty in a point so essential to the Nature of my

P.T.O.

Lost, I could have shunned some indisputable rank before West England. I hope Sir, you'll pardon the natural effusions of a Heart impressed with a laudable ambition! — I have trusted in your Excellency, and I do not yet despair of your taking it into consideration.

Having now faithfully recounted the heads of my Conduct to the period which occasioned the investigation of Accounts, I shall take the liberty of saying something upon that Subject, reserving many particulars which will appear in my Answers to the remarks of the Board, that are to be shortly transmitted.

Tho I was constantly advised to avoid giving your Excellency any Trouble, respecting modes or Accounts, yet I could not help several times expressing my desire to get supplied from home, or elsewhere, in the hope of lessening expenses, notwithstanding such goods were too often ill chosen, and of inferior quality, I aded my wish to receive orders on that subject, and to be enabled by Cash in Hand to keep and settle Contingencies, to which your Excellency was pleased to answer, by desiring a List of Articles for an Annual supply for my Department, This I immediately transmitted, and it was honored with your approbation, but such supply could not be soon expected, I had before been disappointed in many things likewise from Carleton Island, and the loss of the Onlano so late in the Season proved a severe disappointment — I was at the head of a Confederacy whose name & Situation gave them the greatest importance in the War, which had occasioned the destruction of their Country, and afforded additional Strength to their claims on Government at the very period when their wants were most aggravated, who constantly surrounded me in much greater numbers than were usually at any other place, where the expenses were larger — I found a firm confidence in the House I dealt with heard many Instances wherein the Merchant at that Post issued the goods, and did many other things, and I was consequently induced to repose some degree of Confidence myself which I never thought guarded as far as was in my power — I had no former precedent

for

for conceiving that an Officer at the head of such a Multifarious Department there so peculiarly circumstanced, should doubt the Confidence of his Superiors or that these affairs should be investigated by Tribunals that could not make due allowance for peculiar situations and Circumstances. There was only the one public Account by which I could be reimbursed for any expenditures, which Account on a very particular examination, which it was then impossible for me to give it, has been very deficient in doing me justice, and I sensibly feel it, tho I have always conceived that the Errors in any one, may be rectified in a Subsequent Account, where there is so much reason for doing so.

From what I have already mentioned I am fully persuaded it will on impartial consideration evidently appear that the expences during the period referred to instead of being capable of reduction, must have been considerably augmented, Tho the Indians were amused a little for a time by arguments drawn from the Expence and difficulty of obtaining supplies, and its having been an unforseen Calamity, yet their demands rather encreased the succeeding Year, and at the visited the Country south of Niagara where I had began some Settlements, and encouraged more to follow the example yet there the want of a sufficient timely supply of grain it did not fully answer my wishes ——— Naturally averse to labour many of the Indians appeared to give over all thoughts of it and claiming under past promises & Treaties expected to be maintained during the War, without it, the remembrance of their late losses and possessions were too recent for their entering with alacrity on cultivating Many returned, and those of the Towns that escaped the Rebel Invasion being exhausted by the rest, were reduced to apply for aid Your Excellency appeared sensible of this and in the strongest terms recommended their being reestablished to reduce at all Events the enormous consumption of Provisions, this then became my great object in which I laboured most indefatigably, and at length succeeded, but the expence occasioned by their living at Niagara was thereby augmented, and this will

best

best explain the Cause and the nature of Domestic Accounts and Expenditure
The success of the War Parties, occasioned numbers of Prisoners, these were
mostly left at my Quarters till the Chiefs decided on their being delivered
up or detained, they were all in want, and some claimed Subsistence while
Sickness prevailed among the Indians, owing to the change of food, and want
of vegitables, and many articles of Groceries were recommended as necessary
for their relief, I was compelled to keep an Issue constantly occupied in
supplying their wants from my Quarters, which was their common Rendez
vous, as it was for many of the Chiefs and their families, both by Night and
day, Prudence forbad my checking this Suddenly circumstanced as they were
and whilst their services remained an object to the Crown, but particularly
at the near approach of a period when by sending them to New Plantations
in good temper they would enter with more Alacrity on their labor, the event
justified the measure, I procured Corn early from Detroit, and by the
Month of June 1781 the greatest part were comfortably settled, by which
expenses have been considerably reduced.

I had ordered my Issues to make returns of the
quantity and quality of his Issues, he was a man of the strictest trust and
confidence, yet not only the supplies from the House at Niagara, but those
sent me from Canada, or purchased from others on the ground were
exhausting very fast, from the foregoing necessary causes, neither could
he (occupied as he was) make up a State of them till a period of more
leisure Thus situated I directed the Merchant to place half the Stores
in an Account those produced to me, to the Public Account as I did the next
half year until there was leisure to revise the whole, and add the other
Issues from my Quarters, the Amount of which the larger than I first con-
ceived it was then unavoidable, but before a period arrived for doing so
I was suddenly ordered to Montreal to attend the Investigation of the
Merchants Accounts and afterwards to Quebec on the same Subject, when
the Issue made me a Return of his Issues, an Abstract of which I have the
honor to inclose, which will I trust satisfy your Excellency how great a
sufferer I have been thro the foregoing Circumstances, the Amount of which

on the

with the other Articles of that nature would shew (even on an expectation of retaining one to defray them) that the ninth part could not have been expended one, or placed to my private Account, and I humbly conceive it was never yet expected that any Gentleman on such a place as the Office should be necessitated to expend all his Pay much less his private fortune in the public discharge of so laborious a duty.

I humbly entreat your Excellency's indulgence in adding to the Accounts already before you an additional Article for Bad and Forage or an equivalent thereto — my making a charge of it as I was directed to do at New York, may serve to introduce it more methodically before you, Its Amount then varied a little according to circumstances, I had likewise a full allowance for House and Office Rent (with all others that were usual) which is not now brought into Accounts, but with respect to the other allowance, under a Command where my expenses, and I hope I may add, my services were greater, I am persuaded that your Excellency who has been indulgent on that score to Gentlemen in the same line then, will not object to its being inserted.

Having thus laid before your Excellency the Heads of my Transactions, I have only to solicit for your answer, and your indulgent attention to it, assuring you, Sir, that I have a thorough Confidence in your Justice, and that, I never entertained the least doubt of your doing otherwise, than from the view of matters as they appeared to you, but, when it is considered that men in Office, particularly in some Offices are often exposed to the misrepresentations of envy, malice, prejudice, or self Interest, I hope I may be indulged in stating such facts as appear necessary to the explanation of my conduct, and the Justice of my character, which may have been affected with Government, and consequently a share may be found necessary for its information.

The immoderate length of this Letter, tho' but a summary of what can be rendered manifest, has nothing but necessity to plead in its behalf I approaches your Excellency at a season when you are involved in superior cogitations, but the cause of truth and Justice

will

will I trust at all times meet with your attention, and on that Confidence, I
is humbly submitted.

I have the Honor to be &c Signed Gy Johnson

Montreal 11th January 1783

Sir

I presume to enclose herewith some Observations
on and Answers to the Remarks of the Board respecting the Accounts of Messrs
Taylor and Forsyth. In a very long letter of this date, I have so fully and
truly stated all my Transactions, that I trust they will when taken together
prove satisfactory particularly if they are honored with your Excellency's
attention, their claim to which is founded on the peculiar circumstances of
my Case during a period which has not a parrallel, when my time was so
much occupied with Duties of primary nature, that I have been necessitated
in some matters of Accounts to repose a due confidence in Government thro'
a full persuasion that a Conduct animated with Zeal and unmarked by success,
would experience the most Liberal Treatment - In this trust I rely on your
Excellency's indulgence for the reasons given in the letter already mentioned
and in the paper accompanying this, convinced that if the State and Cir-
cumstances of affairs at Niagara during the period in question, was
admitted as I can prove it to be without parrallel or comparison with any
other, it must merit attention, and if any thing farther is necessary beside
the Vouchers herewith transmitted, I would entreat your Excellency that I
might be put into a Channel for bringing it to a conclusion, such Accts
and Articles as regarded me having been hitherto involved with the
rest, so as to leave me at a loss on that Head.

I have the Honor to be &c
(Signed) Gy Johnson

For the Account alluded to See Page 34

In Council Detroit 13th Janry. 1783

Present

Major A. S. DePeyster, Commandt.
Major W. Potts
Capt. W. Caldwell
Lieut. T. Bennett
Lieut. Saumarez
Lieut. D. Mercer
Lieut. C. Myers, Royal Artillery
Messieurs D. Baby, P. Druillard
Simon Girty, Interpreters
Shawanese Delawares & the Six Nation
Indns. which came expressly from Niagara
The Snake for the Shawanese
Capt. Champion for the Delawares

A Seneca Dressing himself to the Shawanese with Strings

Brethren! I thank the Great Spirit for permitting us to meet here to day, that we may deliver you the Speech which we have from our people at Niagara —

Brethren! We the Six Nations

are

are much alarmed to hear that the Enemy have cut off two of your Villages and, we take the earliest Opportunity to convey to you the Steps of Condolence We hope that you will not be discouraged at your loss but be strong and keep close to your Brethren the Delawares and Wyandots, our Father has always Advised us to unite ourselves as one for by dividing ourselves we weaken our Strength and the enemy avantage thereby

Delivers Several Strings

Brethren! You have heard the Substance of the Speech which I had to deliver, and as I find since my arrival here that the report is not true, I expect that you will give me an account of your loss, that I may inform my people on my return ——

The Snake acquaints the Senca he cannot make him any answer to his Speech as he has not heard the resolution of the Shawanese but he will inform them of what

he

had passed after which he made no doubt but the Chiefs would make their answer and forward it to them when convenient —

Major DePeyster then says:

Children. the Shawanese & Delawares —

You have heard what your Fathers the Six Nations have had to say to you, as they came here with the express from Niagara and must return immediately I shall say a few words to you in their presence by them I have received letters from the Commander in Chief and the Officers who Commands at Niagara, the latter is much surprised to hear that you would allow an Enemy to surprize upon in your own Country without your knowing of their approach he tells me he is ready to give us assistance whenever I should require any and wishes us to be strong not to be discouraged but keep a good look out that you be no more taken by Surprize —

he

he says that the Six Nations have had all their Villages taken by the Enemy yet they are strong but now that we are all in Arms it's impossible that the Enemy cut off any of our Villages while we are on our guard Children. Upon the reports sent to me before this last, I wrote to the Commander in Chief who has sent the 34th Regiment part of which was to come here with the Indian goods last fall, but the season would not admit of their crossing Lake Erie, this I tell you in the hearing of the Six Nations Indians as they have seen them —

Children! I repeat to you again that the only way of maintaining our Villages is to do as the Great Man advises us, which is to keep close to each other and be strong for by dividing ourselves we lessen our strength, this is all I shall say to you until I see your people in greater number at which time I shall speak more fully —

1783

Report on

Lt Col Butler's

Contingent Account

£ s d

1,778 .. 14 .. 11 N.Y. Curr.

Jan.y 14th

1783

Sir Conawaguays Jan$^{y}$ 26$^{th}$ 1763

312

Last night at Eleven a Clock the News Came with the Inclosed to this Place that there was Strong hearing Towards Niagara on the South Part of the Lake which was heard by Different Hunters which at their Hunting against the Ramboge reports agree that was Since Augoman returned to the mouth of the River having Surprized the News by the Indian returned Came this night that the Indian Killed them two Days ago at Cahaughte the Side of the Rivers

I Shall be able to tell you ~~[illegible]~~ the Certainty in every Particular

The Chiefs Desired me to mention to you to give them Encouragement as they were now in Distress and Desire by their Brothers at Buffalo Creek Sayango who is the Head would be forward to their Assistance

Capt Bellis and Mr have arrived at the South Shore by Land to Collect Some of the Furrs to go to Niagara Intended by this News, the Express will set out to Morrow for Niagara this Instant the News Came that they were Seen at the Place above mentioned by Three of the Principle Indians that think their Strength is one Thousand

Col$^{o}$ John Butler

turnover

I am Sir Your most Obed$^{t}$ Hum$^{ble}$ Serv$^{t}$

Dan$^{l}$ Jones

Sir

The Chiefs Beg their
Brothers will not Talk
on the Peation they Esteem
to a Packet them in three
Times from to Day

No. 1

Col. John Butler

Niagara

Thanjhaudura Jan 23 1783



Sir

The General Alarm of the Approach of the Rebel at this Place as well as Strong for this District makes not a little Confusion amongst the Indians they were Discovied by some Hunters who were a Hunting at a Place Call'd Cauhauchito on this Side of Shrirangpa on hearing the report of Cannon towards Tiagapa the immediately dispatch'd a runner to Ginjanco to give Information and the rest proceeded towards making a Discovery. Last night Lieut Moore Letter Arrived from Conawangam by a runner who Told me the Hunters were Just Arrived and have Discovered Near Cauhauchito 500 or 1000 as they would have it: the Indians Begs. All their Cloathes that can be Loaded there as well as Ammunition which they are in much Need of shall the Approach is Near we are Determined to set fire to Every Village to prevent them reaping any Benefit of the Corn as there is Large Quantity yet Standing and Green. I have Mention'd to Capt Oldridge that the Inhabitants in that District will Immediately by March the Women and Child will be sent from this to Bangaru Creek and Sir

To Lt Col John Hartley

attack two

His Majesty's Commissary General

To Colo. John Butler

Sir

Positive Dan[illegible] 26 1793

Sir

316

This Evening arrived here a Runner with the Inclosed Letters of Capt. Johnston from Nuwigadera — it has been two days that have Seen the Rebels at this Side of Shemuny — the Chiefs at this Place as well as at Nuwigadera begs you will Send them ammunition & assistance agreable to your Promise as Soon as Possible —

Lieut Bachelder Left of to morrow morning with a bout two Hundred warriors to meet the Enemy —

I am Sir your most obedient & humble Servt

Robert Lottridge

Colo. Butler

Only for freight even till delivered at the Place. ——

The Temporary removal of the Issuing Store keeper, and of old Ibbit the Indian Provision Commissary was at the particular Request of Lieut. Col. Butler until His Excellency's Pleasure should be known, and as a Report of their incapacity was made to Sir John by Mr. Deare, I should apprehend the removal would give no umbrage, even in that Quarter. —— I am &c —— (Signed) Allan Maclean

P.S. Poor Ibbit has been 40 Years in the Service & served all last War as a Sergeant, and has been I believe a faithful Servant to the Crown, but poor Man is old & helpless, but an Honest Man. ——

Niagara 3d. February 1783. ——

Sir

I have the Honor herewith to Transmit to Your Excellency a Copy of Major De Peyster's Letter to me of the 7th. January, by Which I am happy to find that the Damage done the Rebels has been trifling. —— The Major says he will only Call upon Me for Assistance in Case of Necessity, I shall therefore send him none until he Makes the Demand except you should be pleased to Order the Contrary —— On the 24th. January We had a considerable Alarm here, Runners Came in from the Indian Officers at Canadagarow, & Gaghadiety —— The Original Letters on that Occasion I have the Honor to Transmit for Your Excellencys Information; I confess I gave no credit to the Intelligence, and after Consulting with Lieut. Col. Dundas, he was of the same Opinion, but finding that the Indians have of late been rather in a disponding Humour and that their Chiefs in Council had thrown out the idea that they were Jealous & Suspicious that We had Made a Peace with the Rebels, and finding they had adopted this Opinion from their being restrained from going to War, and also that the Chiefs Most firmly believed the Report of the approach of the Enemy —— In order therefore to keep up their drooping Spirits, and fully to Convince them there was no Peace tho' the Express from the Indians arrived only on the 24th. in the afternoon, on the 25th. a Detachement of 210 Regulars, Rangers and a few Forresters Marched to their Assistance —— The Detachment came back on the fourth Day, having Met an Express Acquainting them of it's being a false Alarm —— Upon the Whole however, I am happy to find that this Movement has had a very good Effect upon the Indians and put them in good Humour, and they now Say they are Convinced that they are to be Supported in Case of Need. —— In the Mean Time an Indian Officer that Speaks the Language was ordered to proceed to the Genesee Country with 8 Chosen Men Rangers & Forresters to be divided in two Parties, and application was to be made to the Chiefs to get two good Indians to go with each Party under the Command of an Indian Officer, Each Scout consisting of five White Men & Two Indians, the one Scout to go to Tioga and the other to go farther to the Westward —— Colonel

Butler

Butler gave them very Particular Instructions, by which Means no Mischief Can happen, and Should they get any Intelligence worth Communicating, Your Excellency Shall have the Earliest Notice Possible. ——

I am Sorry to Report to Your Excellency that We Shall have a Large Quantity of Bad Pork here when the Warm Weather Comes on, The Pork Barrels are so very Bad, that Two Thirds of them have lost the Pickle, and We have been rather delatory in getting it repacked and Repickled, tho' indeed this in great Measure proceeded from Want of good Casks, we were obliged at last to have recourse to Empty Rum Hogsheads, but it being necessary to Make the Pickle very Strong, very few of the Rum Casks could Hold it, and We are Still Greatly distressed for Casks & Pickle the Pork, but every Thing that is Possible Shall be done — I own I was a good deal Surprised to find that the Nine Companies here, consisting only of 370 Men had Left 2590 Weight of their Pork in Store in one Month; upon Inquiry I found the Reason of so large a Quantity being left, was owing to the Badness of the Pork, which of Course will augment the Quantity of Bad & unserviceable Pork that We Shall have here next Summer, and I should really Apprehend that if the Troops were now Ordered to receive their full Allowance of Pork, it would be Saving Government the Money that is paid the Men for Pork that May be Issued & used now, but that will Certainly be unfit for any Use by next July — This Matter I have taken the Liberty to Represent to Your Excellency that you May be pleased to approve or disapprove of the Scheme that I have Mentioned

I have the Honor to be &c &c (Signed) Allan Maclean

Niagara 5th February 1783

Sir,

Before the Express left this, I wished to get all the Information I could respecting the Mistake in the Issuing Indian goods at this Post. I had therefore after Examining Mr. Dease, Col. Butler & Mr. Wilkinson, sent for the Boy Clement the former, but found he had been sent to the Indian Country, but I got Colonel Butler to send for him, & he arrived here Yesterday; I had a long Conversation with him in presence of Mr. Wilkinson, Shewed him the Deficiency He is a poor Simple Boy and to me does not appear to be 18 years old, the Creature told me that he had some Receipts for goods delivered from the 25th Nov. to the 30th, that those five Days Issues were not included in the Returns he gave in — I got Mr Wilkinson to help him to make out a Return from those Receipts which I shewed him along, and which is to be deducted from the former Return & sent inclosed with My other Letter — the Amount

of

From [illegible] 1783

B. Genl. Marlean

2d Feb. Rec. 7th

by Mr. Rp

To be shewn to Mr. Day.

Sir Niagara 3d. February 1763

I have the Honor herewith to transmit to your Excellency, a Copy of Major Deyesters Letter to me of the Seventh January, by which I am happy to understand that the damage done the Rebells has been trifling.

The Major says he will only call upon me for Assistance in case of Necessity, I shall therefore send him no Men until he makes the demand; except you should be pleased to order the Contrary. On the 24 January we had a considerable Alarm here. Runers came in from the Indian Officers at Canawagaras, & Karachadiery. The Originall Letter on that Occasion I have the honor to transmit for your Excellencys information. I confess I gave no Credit to the Intelligence, and after Consulting with Lieut Colonel Bandy he was of the same Opinion: But finding that the Indians have of late been rather in a dispondingh humour, and that their Chiefs in Council had thrown out the idea that they were Jealous & Suspicious that we had made a peace with with the Rebells, and finding they had Adopted this Opinion from their being restrained from going to war, and also that the Chiefs most firmly believed the report of the approach of the Enemy; In order therefore to keep up their drooping Spirits, and fully to Convince them there was no peace, tho the Express from the Indians arrived only on the 24th in the Afternoon, on the 25th a detachment of 210 Regulars, Rangers, and a few Foresters, March'd to their assistance; The detachment came back on the fourth day, having met an Express acquainting them of its being a false alarm. Upon the whole however I am happy to find that this Movement has had a very good Effect upon the Indians and put them in good humour, and they now say, they are Convinced that

General Gladwin and

Bay

they are to be supported in case of need. In the meantime
Indian officer that speaks the Languages was ordered
to proceed to the Genesie Country, with eight picked men
Rangers & Foresters, to be divided into two Parties, and
Application was to be made to the Chiefs to get five good
Indians to go with each party, under the Command
of an Indian Officer, each Scout Consisting of five white
men & two Indians, the One Scout to go to Niagra, and
the other to go farther two the West ward; Colonel Butler
gave them very particular instructions, by which means
no mischief can happen, and should they get any intelligence
worth Communicating, Your Excellency shall have the earliest
Notice possible.

I am sorry to report to your Excellency
that we shall have a large Quantity of bad Pork here
when the Warm Weather comes on, The Pork barrells
are so very bad, that two thirds of them have lost the
the Pickle, And we have been at the dilatory in getting
it repacked and repickled, tho indeed there in a great
measure proceeded from want of good Casks, we were
obliged at last to have recourse to Empty Rum Hogsheads
but it being necessary to make the Pickle very strong
very few of them Casks Could hold it, and we are
still greatly distressed for Casks to pickle the Pork, but
every thing that is possible shall be done. I own I was a
good deal surprised to find that the Nine Companies
here, Consisting only of 378 men had left 2590 Weight
of their Pork in Store in One Month; upon Enquiry I
found the reason of so large a quantity being left, was
owing to the Badness of the Pork; which of Course
will Augement the quantity of bad & Unserviceable
Pork that we shall have here next Summer, and
I should really apprehend that if the troops were

now

Now ordered to receive their full allowance of Pork
it would be saving Government the money that is paid
the men for Pork, that may be Issued & used now; but that
will certainly be unfit for any use by next July.

This matter I have taken the liberty to represent
to your Excellency that you may be pleased to approve
or disapprove of the scheme that I have mentioned

I have the Honor to be most respectfully
Your Excellency's
Most Obedient and
Most Humble Servant
Allan Maclean

A 1783.

From
B. Genl. Maclean
3d Feb. Recd 7th March
by Mr. Ross

Ent. C. No. 1. fol. 70.

# Estimate of Indian Presents, Issued by Mr. James Clement from the 25th to the 30th Nov.r 1703, Inclusive, which was not included in his Return ..... Niagara 4th Feb.y 1703

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 3 pair of 3 point Blankets ..... @ 9/6 | | 1. | 0 | 6 |
| 3 pair 2½ point .. Do. ..... | 7/3 .. | 1 | 1 | 9 |
| ¾ yd Scarlet Cloth ..... | 8/ .. | – | 6 | – |
| 10½ yds Stroud ..... | 3/4 .. | 1 | 15 | 10 |
| 1¼ lb. Powder ..... | | – | 7 | 6½ |
| 42 lb. Lead, or Shot ..... | 1/6 p. Ct. | .. | 6 | 6¾ |
| 1 Brass Kettle .. upon 4 lb. | 1/4 .. | – | 5 | 4 |
| 1 Bridle ..... | | – | 2 | 6 |
| ¾ lb. Vermilion ..... | 4/6 | – | 3 | 4½ |
| 1 Carrot Tobacco .... lb. 4 ..... | 1/0 .. | – | 6 | 8 |
| | £ | 6 | 4 | 1¼ |
| Advance, 40 p. Ct. on the above £6..4..0¼ ..... | | 2 | 9 | 7¼ |
| Sterlg .. £ | | 8 | 13 | 7½ |

Copy

Head Quarters Rudd 6th February 1783.

Sir

I have Rec'd your Letter of the 3d Inst. covering an Extract of one from Joseph Brant, upon the Subject of which I have rec'd a Letter from Brig. General Maclean accompanied by a Speech delivered to him in Council by the Principal Chiefs of the Six Nations, and his Answer thereto, Copies of which I inclose to You — I see, with Concern, that Joseph is dissatisfied, and apprehends bad Consequences to the Indians from the defensive System now adopted, which I need not observe to You, puts it entirely out of My Power to give the least Encouragement to their Mode of Retaliation by carrying the War into the Enemy's Country — The Indians must nevertheless be convinced that it is not My Intention to remain Idle and see their Country invaded and laid Waste. — The Pains employed upon the Ohio last Campaign must convince it, as well as my having, to that End in the Field, sent upon General Clarke upon the Report of an Expedition against the Indians by Way of Fort Pitt — Joseph cannot more sensibly feel for the Situation of the Indians than I do, and they may depend upon My doing every thing in My Power to support them in the Possession of their Country as well by the assistance of such Troops as can be spared, as by furnishing them with Ammunition and Provisions, but they must be contented to Defence, for they should know that I cannot exceed the Powers given me

Brigad. General St. John Johnson — I shall

I Shall, at the same Time represent the ungenerous & inhumane advantages the Enemy have taken of the Forbearance of the Kings Troops and Indians have observed throughout the last Campaign, in such Terms as will, I hope prevent the like Scenes being renewed in the Spring, or justify the Retaliation so naturally dreaded by the Indians — I Shall in the Course of a few Days prepare My Dispatches for the upper Country, and forward to You under a flying Seal My answer to the Speech of the Six Nations, which indeed can be little more than is Comprehended in that of Brigadier General McLeans — You can at the same time prepare one from Yourself, and an answer to Joseph, in order to Calm their Minds as much as possible, and disuade them from making Incursions into the Enemy's Country / encouraging them at the Same time to Send it with the utmost Vigour / until we Can learn What Measures are to be pursued the next Campaign. ——

I Finding by a Letter from Brigd. General Maclean that a considerable Saving may be made by a Reduction of Establishments in Your Department at Niagara as hinted to You by Joseph, I forward by Post a Packet of Instructions &c &c which I intended to send by a Private hand / that You may have time to consider the reforms to be made before the Express returns — Jamaica —

(Signed) Fred: Haldimand

1783

Copy

To Brig.r Gen.l Sir John Johnson

of the 12.th February. —

Copy

London July 7th 1709

Sir

I have received by the Ship [illegible]
[illegible] Letter of the 9th March
[illegible] Letter of Mr Secretary [illegible]
upon the Memorial of the Merchants [illegible]
Trading thither [illegible]
[illegible] Petition [illegible]
Answer thereto [illegible]
Order thereupon [illegible]
[illegible] Letter [illegible]
[illegible] Letter [illegible]
[illegible] Letter

Virginia Land Warrant

[illegible] the Indians [illegible]
the Superintendent must and will notice
[illegible] Indians do contend not a Word of
Falsehood — The Goods were purchased in
every liberal Quantity, they are actually on
the Journey, and the Indians will receive
in Later, as the Season and Weather will admit
without which there — The Goods Miscarriage
cannot happen every Year, and I have
taken every Precaution in my Power to
prevent it the next — Always to be there —
Matter carefully explained to the Indians
present —

Inform them, in Answer to —
their Speech where they complain

of

[illegible]

N.B. [illegible]

Montreal 10th Feby 1763

Sir

I have received your Excellencys Several Letters and enclosures of the 6th Instant, to all of Which I shall pay the greatest and strictest attention, and shall esteem myself fortunate if, by every exertion of my little Abilities and Influence, I shall be able to answer the desireable end proposed by His Majestys Gracious Appointment of me.

After I have maturely considered of the Necessary reduction of Officers and others throughout the Several Branches of the Indian Department, that may at present be made, and determined on the choice of proper

persons to be Appointed in the New Arrangement for the Prevention of future Abuses, I shall transmit to your Excellency, Returns of the Whole, shewing at one View the reduction in each District, and the Annual Saving to Government. —

I shall prepare my Letter to Joseph and Speech to the Indians Against the Arrival of the express, together with such Orders as, I think, will be best calculated to prevent in some Measure, if not totally, the Abuses that might be committed before the Appointment and Arrival of such persons as may be thought Worthy of the the trust to be reposed in them. —

I have the honor to be with great respect
Sir your Excellency's Most Obedient and
most Humble Servant
John Wells

1783.

From Lt. Col. Allison

B. General Parsons

10th Feb. Rec? 12th

Copy

Head Quarters Dublin 19th Feb. 1783

Sir

76

Brigad. General Maclean having requested, in Behalf of the Indians that the Persons sent down with the Express should not be detained long, I have by this Opportunity forwarded my Dispatches to Montreal that the Indians may be dismissed as they have Business with them — I have inclosed for Your perusal my answer & the application of the Six Nations that Brigr. General Maclean will bear, for Short of their Deputation, but it Comprehends, & the Settlers extent, all left in my Power to do for them, please to Seal the Letter and Return it to Captain Brower that it may be put up in the Packet

I am &c

(Signed) Fred: Haldimand

Brigad. General Sir John Johnson

Copy

1783

Ld Marq. Cornwallis to Sir John Shore.

14th Sep. February

Instructions to the Commissioners to be appointed in pursuance of the Act, "For Indian Affairs".

The principal Object of your Commission is to endeavour to accomplish an Exchange of the District claimed by the Oneida's and Tuscarora's, for a District of vacant and unappropriated Lands within this State.

In the execution of this Trust, you are to proceed with Caution and Reserve, so as not to alarm the Oneidas and Tuscaroras with apprehensions that there is the most remote Intention to deprive them of the enjoyment of the District belonging to them: On the contrary you are on all proper Occasions to impress them with a Confidence that this State will suffer no encroachment to be made within their limits nor any Settlement thereon without their free Consent.

If an Exchange cannot be obtained you will enquire whether it is the Intention of those Tribes, to sell any part of the District belonging to them? and if so what Quantity thereof, and where situated and what are the Terms and Considerations which they may expect for the same; and you have it particularly in charge to apprize them that no Purchases can be made from them of any of their Lands unless under the Authority and with the Consent of the Legislature of this State; carefully explaining at the same time that their Security was the Motive which led to the establishment of this Prohibition in the Constitution.

If

If you shall find the Oneida's and Tuscarora's inclined to an exchange, you shall in the most prudent Manner endeavour to draw from them their Terms which they may require and to report the same to the Legislature: But if it should appear that as a Consideration for the Surrender of their Lands to this State they are willing to accept of the occupancy and Right of Soil of the District of County, "North of the North Boundary Line between this State and the State of Pennsylvania South of Lake Ontario, West of a South Line drawn from the East side of the Mouth of the little Seneca or Cheniju River where it empties into Lake Ontario extended to the boundary Line of Pennsylvania, East of the following Lines and Bounds, to wit. a North and South Line drawn thro' a Point twenty Miles East of the most Easterly Inclination of the Strait of Niagara and extended North to the said Lake and South until it intersects an East and West Line drawn thro' a Point twenty Miles South of the great Falls of Niagara, thence from the said Intersection West to Lake Erie, thence along the East Bank of Lake Erie to the boundary Line of Pennsylvania aforesaid", Then you are hereby authorized to conclude a Compact with them for that Purpose and to pledge the Faith of this State for the Ratification thereof: Reserving however the Right of Preemption of this State in the same manner as has always heretofore been accustomed. If

If you discover that the Oneidas and Tuscaroras are determined not to exchange their lands then you are instructed to enquire into the extent of their Claims and to obtain a Description thereof as far as possible by natural Boundaries to be reported to the Legislature.

By order of the Senate March 17th 1783.—

Peter Van Cortlandt Clk.

By order of the Assembly. March 20th 1783.

Lewt Barker, Speaker

the greatest spirit when they expected every moment to be attack'd. — Poor fellows, I have a paper now in my possession which particularizes the names of Fifty men of this Garrison whose little properties are now under confiscation.

I shall look for a Ship from Niagara every day after the 1st. of April — Indians are much wanted here.

(Signed) John Ross

Brigr. Genl. Maclean.

Copy of a Letter from Major Ross to Brigr. Genl. Maclean. dated at Oswego, 21st. March 1783 ———

Sir Niagara 29th March 1783

30

I am honoured with your Excellencys several dispatches of the 4th 7th 8th 9th & 10th February and I shall endeavour to pay such particular attention to their respective Contents, as I hope and trust, will meet with your Approbation.

By this Opportunity I have the Honor to transmit to Canada a small Coffer addressed to Captain Maurer with Papers from Michilimakina and some dispatches for your Excellency from that place.

Two days ago an Indian Sent Express by Major Ross from Oswego brought us the Kings Speech which I should have had the Honor of transmitting to your Excellency, but that I find Major Ross has already sent the Paper from which this was taken.

Two Prisoners were brought in here on the 19th Instant by a Party of Seneca Indians, that were taken on the 1st March within 30 Miles of Wioming. Their declaration I herewith transmit, they persist in saying that there is a Peace.

I likewise inclose to Copy of Major Depeysters last Letter to me, from which I am happy to Learn, that every thing is well there as well as at Michilimakina.

In a former Letter I took the liberty to mention, that Commissary Bliss's bad State of health, rendered it absolutely necessary for him to quit this place early in the Spring, and his bad Health still Continuing he goes from hence in

General Haldimand

May

may, indeed. it would be cruel to detain him here any longer, his state of health having rendered him Unfit for Service. In the mean time I beg leave to assure your Excellency, that I shall take particular care, that his Majesty's Service in the Commissary department shall suffer no inconvenience on that account, having got a very good Serjeant from the 34 to act until your Excellency shall be pleased to appoint a Commissary for this Post. might I presume to give my Opinion, I should apprehend, that whatever person your Excellency may be pleased to appoint Commissary, Ought not to be too great a Gentleman, five Shillings per day is too small an income, for any man coming under that description, to support him at this Place, now Especially, it being impossible for any Commissary in future to have any kind of perquisite, provided the Commanding Officers will do their duty -

I hope Sir you will have the Goodness to pardon this Remark. - -

I have the Honor to be respectfully

Your Excellency's

Most Obedient and

Most Humble Servant

Allan Maclean

From A 1783

B. Genl. Maclean

29th March-R-25th April

I shall pay great attention to what your Excellency is pleased to recommend respecting the Mills. That work shall be forwarded with all the Expedition possible; You Sir very Justly observe, that it is difficult to determine, which is the most eligible plan to pursue, with respect to Economy in the Expence to be incurred; but as the Work is going on with all possible diligence, the taking a little more time to Consider this Business will occasion neither delay or inconveniency. Your Excellency must therefore pardon my declining to Consult with Colonel Butler, (good man as he is) or with others here, who may be supposed to be the best Judges; it is a hard matter for the best men to devest themselves of prejudice or partiality, in a matter wherein they are interested in One of the Parties: besides its a maxim I find that has been long adopted in this Part of the world, that whatever can be got from Government, is well got, where no Censure can insue. I shall therefore presume to lay and Consider this matter with more deliberation, & Communicate my own Ideas on the subject to your Excellency for your Consideration. Colonel Butler assures me both Mills will ready to work on or about the first of July, provided the Iron work comes up early in Spring. I shall go upon the Spot in a few days, and make my report to your Excellency

Colonel Butler also tells me that the return your Excellency, wished to have of the farms here & their produce, that he had given such a return to General Powell, but in that return a Copy of which I have

General Haldimand

And

Head Qrs Quebec 31 March 1783

Sir

94

By Direction of His Excellency the Commander in Chief, I have the honor to acquaint you that Lieut. Houghton and Mr. La Mothe are arrived here with the Quota of Provisions allotted for the Indians of Lauzelle, but His Excellency has delayed their being distributed at present, those Indians having upon several Occasions manifested a slackness and want of Inclination for the King's Service and they have been often told that while they discover such Dispositions they are not to expect Benefits from Government — But as you have made them a Promise of a supply His Excellency purposes, after some Time, to direct that it may be given to them, discriminating between those who have, and have not merited the attention of Government —

I am further directed, Sir, to acquaint you, that, as the Season advances fast, His Excellency is in expectation of receiving your further Opinion respecting the Arrangement of Offices for your Department, that no time may be lost in determining that necessary Business according to, and as soon as the Circumstances of Public Affairs shall permit.

I have the honor to be &c

(Signed) R Mathews

Brig. General
Sir John Johnson

(Copy)

To Lt Genl Sir John Johnson

March 31st

[Copy]

New York. March 31st 1783

Sir

I have received from General Haldimand a Packet of so interesting a nature as to require the communication of its contents to your Excellency, a Copy of which, with an Extract of the Letter that accompanied it, I therefore enclose.

To your Excellency's consideration these papers must be referred; but I cannot help wishing, & expecting, that such measures may be adopted, as may put a stop to those calamities from which I was always persuaded neither Party could derive much benefit, in any stage of the War, but the present situation leaves not the least pretence of continuing those barbarities on that unhappy frontier; on the contrary, seems very strongly to urge the most healing measures, and the closing up of those Wounds with all possible diligence.

I have &c

His Excellency
General Washington

Your

Your Excellency will find that Admiral Saltmarsh has received no official dispatches for a considerable time past, or advices whatever which he can depend on. — With respect to myself, I have also no official advices, since those I last communicated to your Excellency; and have consequently none to communicate to General Hal: demand of much Importance. — It is therefore from you, Sir, he must hear of Peace, accompanied with the fruits of Peace, benevolence, its most pleasing, as well as most unquestionable Evidence. — —

I am, Sir,

Your Excellency's

most obedient and

Most humble Servant

/ signed / Guy Carleton

Copy
Sir Guy Carleton
to
General Washington

Extract of a Speech delivered to Brigadier General Maclean by the principal Chiefs and Warriors of the Six Nations Indians, assembled in Council at Niagara the 11th December 1782.

Sioguanda Speaker

We thank the great Spirit for this opportunity of meeting the General and other Officers here assembled on this particular occasion, and gives us the power of laying before him and Colonel Butler, the result of our deliberations in a late Council of the Chiefs, held at one of our Villiages in consequence of intelligence we received from our Brothers the Shawanese informing us of their late misfortune, their lower Town having been cut off by the perfidious cruel Rebels, at a time when they and we were forbid to go to War, and directed to cease Hostilities by the great General of our Brother the King of England, and upon our agreeing to obey the orders of the General, the perfidious Rebels have taken the advantage of our inactivity, and have come like Thieves in the Night, when the Shawanese Warriors were out at their hunting Grounds, surrounded one of their Towns, and murdered all the Women and Children. We therefore think it proper to acquaint you, that you may let the great General know that we shall remain no longer idle and see our Brothers and people destroyed by these cruel Rebels - since the fate they have met with may be ours next, if we do not go to War to prevent it - - - - -

We therefore desire that you will request the great General, in our name to assist us heartily in sharping our Axe.

We have already mentioned unto you the Cruelties committed by the Rebels upon our younger Brothers the Shawanese, and we are persuaded there is no reliance to be had on the faith or promises of the Rebels, whose unparalleled cruelty lately destroyed the poor innocent Moravian Indians, their near neighbours, who never went to War against them, or any other people; yet under the Cloak of Friendship they murdered them in cold blood, and reduced their Bones to ashes that the murder might not be discovered.

In the Year 1779. when the Rebels attacked the Villages of the Six Nations, their cruelty was equally great, for at the Onandago Town of which I am one of the Principal Chiefs they put to Death all the Women and Children, excepting some young Women whom they carried away for the use of their Soldiers, and were afterwards put to Death in a more [illegible]

shameful manner reject these people call themselves Christians.

We have been so often deceived by the Rebels that we can no longer trust to their words; and we find by sad experience that the Enemy profit by our laying still and following the advice of the General - We are therefore resolved that, in future, we will act upon their own principle, and shew them no Lenity or Mercy; and hope for assistance from the great General, and that he will not find fault with us for following the Example of the Rebels - that tho' we have hitherto, in general, refrained from retaliating their Cruelties, except in the instance of Colonel Crawford, the principle agent in the murder of the Moraviens; and he was burned with Justice and according to our Custom, yet we make no doubt the Rebels will immagine that our not going to War proceeds from fear. - We therefore purpose to send a Flag to them to acquaint them that we shall in future follow the Example set us by themselves, seeing it is their intention to destroy the Indians and possess themselves of their Country -

Extract of a Speech
delivered by the Six
Nation Indians at
Niagara —
11th Decem. 1782.

Extract of a letter from General Haldimand
to Sir Guy Carleton dated Quebec 17 Sept 1783

"I have very lately received Letters
from Brigadier General M Lean comman
ding in the upper Country, accompanied
by a speech from the Six Nation Indians,
so strongly expressive of their resentment
at, and determination to retaliate, the
late barbarity committed by Virginians
in the total destruction of a Shawanese
settlement, Standing Stone Village, and
the indiscriminate Massacre of all its
Inhabitants; that I think it my duty
to the Kings Service to communicate
their resolution to you, for the purpose
of representing to General Washington
the fatal consequences which must
unavoidably follow the unwarrantable
advantage which has been taken of my
restraining (in consequence of orders from
the Kings ministers) the Light Bodys of
Indians from offensive War in that
Quarter — I have employed every
Argument in my power, to suggest,
& dissuade the Indians from their

confess; at the same time I cannot
positively look on and see their country
ravaged & their Women and Children mur-
dered for their attachment to the Royal
cause, I have therefore promised to assist
them with Troops, and by every means
in my power to oppose the incursions
of the Enemy into their Country, and I
dare not faithfully perform it—
the difficulty and uncertainty of com-
municating at this distance with
General Washington prevents my addy
-ing him myself upon this interesting
subject but your situation affords
a facility of doing it, which I request
you will improve, should you, as
I do, think it necessary for the Kings
Service, for which purpose I enclose to
you an extract of the Speech delivered
by the six Nations—

Reports have lately circulated
here that Charles Town is evacuated
that the French Fleet and Army have
departed for the West Indies, that
Lord Howe has effectually relieved
Gibraltar and obtained a peace

over the corbiaed flesh, with many
others that may be equally true or
false: and which I can neither confirm
or contradict not having received the
least official communication from any
Locater."

Extract of a letter
from Genl Haldimand
To
Sir Guy Carleton
Quebec 17 July 1783

A Council held at Niagara the 1st April 1793 in Consequence of a Speech from His Excellency General Hildimand Commander in Chief &c also from Brigadier General Sir John Johnson, Superintendent Genl &c and Inspector General of Indian Affairs &c ——

Present

Brigadier General Maclean
Lieut Colo Dundas, 8th Regt
Lt Colo Butler Deputy Agent
Major Hayes 34th Regt
&c a Number of more Officers together with those of the Indian Department
Mr Nicholas Jones Interpreter ——

Chiefs

Sayenqueraghta
Kayashota
Tagaaya
Blue Coat
Shingwaihe
Aron
Davd
Shonondo &c &c &c

The Chief Sachems & War Chiefs with their Allies informed the Deputy Agent that they were assembled at the Kings Fire & Ready to hear what was to be Said ——

The Deputy Agent then Condoled with them for their Loss in general in the name of the Commander in Chief and the Superintendent General in the usual manner ——

Brigadier General Maclean then Ordered the Generals & Sir John Johnsons Speeches to be read, this being done Captn Joseph Brant Interpreted the same to the Chiefs &c ——

The Chiefs Answer.

Brother, We have heard what the Commander in Chief and the Superintendent General have said to us, for which we are much Obliged to them and will to morrow meet you here again & give you our Answer to the Whole

April

April 2d Present as before

Sayingaragtika Speaker

Brother, Brigadier General Maclean we are again met agreable to our promise Brother
yesterday —

Brother, You condoled with us for our Losses, for which we are much Obliged to
you & are agreable to our Ancient Customs we Return it —

Brother, We shall Repeat what you told us yesterday from the General & his Ju
Johnson & then give our Answer to both —

Brother Genl. Gallimand } We assure you that your Answer to our Speech last Fall affords us
much pleasure, particularly that part wherein you Express your feelings
in so Tender & Fatherly a manner for the sufferings of our Younger
Brethren the Shawanese, as well as your kind Care and attention to us
in general and sending one of your best Regiments of men at so late a Sea
for our relief, is a sufficient proof of your sincerity. As to the usual Brother
Supplies of Presents, they have been very Deficient these two Years past,
which has greatly distressed our Women & Children but Leg leave to assure
you, that no fault is found with you on that Account, well knowing Brother
that you can neither Command the Wind, Weather, or the Great Waters
but are Convinced that every Effort has been made at this Post to
supply us. It is true we have been very unhappy to see our Distressed Situ
in the Situation they have been in for some time past, but that is re
all removed by the assurance you give us of a speedy supply of all the
Wants, as the Presents are now on their Passage —

Brother, Your friendly & Good advice, desiring us to keep out Hands clear of Quarrels and

close

ourselves being surprised, this we have done since last Fall & shall continue doing so, untill we hear farther from you as we well know the Treachery of the Enemy —

Brother, We have attended to and Obeyed your Advice, & have Restrained our Young men from going to War or committing any Cruelty tho' the Rebells gave us great Reason to be revenged on them for their Cruelties to us and our Friends, and if we had the means of publishing to the World the many Acts of Treachery & Cruelty committed by them on our Women & Children, it would appear that the title of Savages would with much greater justice be applied to them than to us, Brother we have some of our People that can Read the Papers published by the Rebells, where many Acts of Cruelty are laid to our Charge that we never committed and is only put into their false Papers to give them a pretence to hurt & murder us for those supposed Cruelties, but we shall keep at home & follow your Brotherly Advice —

Delivered by Strings Wampum

Brother Sir
Sir John Johnson } We Received your friendly Speech from our Brother Colo Butler & with the greatest pleasure now Return you our Answer which we hope will be accepted of with equal friendship —

Brother, We assure you that your very friendly & good advice will not be forgot by us acknowledging the same to be our own interest, & last fall we put a Stop to our Young men committing any Acts of Cruelty tho' at the same time sent several Parties to the Frontiers to watch the Enemy & obtain intelligence & hitherto they have Observed the advice given them, we have now parties out on different parts of the Frontiers for the same purpose & shall Continue doing so untill we hear from you or see you — Your generous friendly & Brotherly offer to share the Fatigues & dangers in Order to

Revenge

Revenge our Use will be following the Steps of your Father, Sir William Johnson the greatest and best Friend we ever had or ever heard of — And most sincerly wish that the Great Spirit above who is master of us, will enable you in every Respect to follow his Example & take care of his Red Children, which no Doubt will Unite the Six Nations & their Confederates in the Strongest Ties of friendship for you, the good of the Kings Service & their own interests —

Some Accounts lately arrived at this Post, informing us that a Peace is nearly on a Conclusion in this Case we hope & rely on you / as the Father of all Indians on this Island / that we may not be forgot, but be included with yourselves in such a manner as will be for both our interests —

Delivered at Bellt. Wampum

A Council held at Niagara the 1st April 1783 with some of the Chiefs of the 6 Nations

Six Nations Answer
to his Excellency the
C. in Chief, &c
Sir J. Johnsons Speech
1st April 1783.

Montreal 3d. April 1783

Sir

I am honored with your letter of the 31st. past, acquainting me, by desire of the Commander in Chief, with the Arrival of Lieut. Houghton and Mr. La Mothe with the present designed for the Indians of Lauretto, and that His Excellency had delayed the distribution of them on Account of their having upon several occasions Manifested a Backwardness and Want of Inclination for the Kings Service - their backwardness to promote the Service justly merits His Mark of His Excellency's disapprobation of their Conduct, but I could wish my promise to them fulfilled not only on Account of the light they would consequently, but on Account of their Connection with the Natives of Detroit, and the bad effect any evil representation of theirs might have on the Minds of those People and others connected with them. -

Captain Matthews

I have long since prepared a Plan for a reform in the Indian Department, which I deferred transmitting to His Excellency, in the Expectation of hearing something of Moment, or Authentick relative to the various reports of a peace, which might have induced His Excellency to adopt the Original Plan given in —

By the Next Post I shall have every thing ready to transmit to His Excellency relative to the proposed reform,

I have the honor to be
with great respect & regard
Sir your Most Obedient
Humble Servant
Jno. Johnson

By this Post you will receive a letter from Mr. Van de Water, who is really an Object of Charity and one that has deserved some favor from Government for his services.

BRITISH MUSEUM

1783.

From

B. Genl. St. J. Johnson

3d April R. 5 b

Sir  [illegible]  1783

I Brigd. Jeune Marlein
of the 13th Regt, Rec'd
the 21st May —

with 5 inclosures

Head Quarters Newburgh 14th April
1783

Sir

I have the Honor to inform you that on the 3d of April I received from Sir Guy Carleton the enclosed Extract of a Letter from General Haldimand — No 1. — On the 8th a proclamation from the King of Great Britain was sent me by Sir Guy — No 2 — And on the 10th a Letter, of which No 3 is a Copy, was received, requesting Passports for two Gentlemen bearing Dispatches from the British Commander in Chief to General Haldimand, announcing the ratification of the preliminary Articles of a general Peace, & a Cessation of Hostilities — A Passport was immediately granted — and the Gentlemen are on their Way to Canada —

The Distance to General Haldimand being great, & his Situation so wide from your Sort, that great Time must elapse

before

you can receive his Dispatches;— I have taken the Liberty to make this Communication to you by the directest Route in my power— in confident hope, that, altho you may not deem this Information Official, yet that your Benevolence will cause it to be regarded with such Attention, that, if it does not produce a total cessation of Hostilities within your Command— yet, it may at least prevent any unnecessary & wanton Acts of Cruelty which may have been meditated by the Indians on the Frontiers;— and which, in their Consequences, may prove as disagreeable to them as distressing to the Inhabitants of the United States.———

I have the Honor to be

Sir

Your most Obed.t Servant.

Go. Washington

Brig.r Gen.l M.Lean.—

1783

From

General Washington &

Brigr. Gen.l Maxwell, & Lt.

Lt. Colo. Morris

C

Entd. in Niagara Book C (No 1) fol 80

Sir

Camp the 16th April

I last night received a letter from Genl Cuyler
dated St Thomas, where two hundred Seamen
were to be sent from Barbadoes, I hope agreeable to
Orders, Sir Richard Hughes
of his Force as many more you can spare
into the Leeward Islands, Sir Richard Hughes
with which they were to leave Barbadoes
end of March I that we may expect them every hour
No peace likely to be
Sheerness
Sir your most obedt Servt
Cornwallis

Brevet Brigadier Genl M'Lean

# The United States in Congress assembled.

October 15th 1783.

The Committee to whom was referred sundry Letters, and Papers relative to Indian Affairs · Report That they have attentively considered the several papers referred to them, and have conferred thereon with the Commander in Chief — That their Report will be confined to Indian Affairs in the Northern and Middle Departments, as they are defined by the Acts of Congress of the 12th of July 1775, and to the settlement of the Western Country, those subjects being in the opinion of the Committee, inseperably connected, and the Committee not being possessed of materials which enable them to extend their views to the Southern District.

That it is represented and the Committee believe with truth, that altho' the hostile Tribes of Indians in the Northern and Middle Departments, are seriously disposed to a pacification, yet they are not in a temper to relinquish their territorial claims without further struggles — That if an Indian War should be rekindled, repeated victories might produce the retreat of the Indians but could not prevent them from regaining possessions of some part of the distant and extensive territories which appertain to the United States — That while such temporary expulsions could only be of great charge, they could not be improved to the smallest advantage, but by maintaining numerous Garrisons and an expensive Peace Establishment —

That even if all the Northern and Western Tribes of Indians inhabiting the territories of the United States could

could be totally expelled, the policy of reducing them to such an extremity is questionable; for in such an event it is obvious that they would find a welcome reception from the British Government in Canada, which by so great an accession of strength would become formidable in case of any future rupture and in Peace by keeping alive the resentment of the Indians for the loss of their Country, would secure to its own Subjects all the benefit of the Fur Trade — That altho' motives of policy as well as Clemency ought to incline Congress to listen to the prayers of the hostile Indians for Peace, Yet in the opinion of the Committee, it is just and necessary that lines of Property should be ascertained and established between the United States and them which will be convenient to the respective Tribes and commensurate to the public wants, because the faith of the United States stands pledged to grant portions of the uncultivated Lands as a bounty to their Army, and in reward of their courage and fidelity, and the public finances do not admit of any considerable expenditure to extinguish the Indian Claims upon such Lands; because it is become necessary by the increase of Domestic population and Emigrations from abroad to make speedy provision for extending the settlement of the territories of the United States; and because the public Creditors have been led to believe, and have a right to expect that those territories will be speedily improved into a fund towards the security and payment of the National Debt, nor in the opinion of the Committee can the Indians themselves have any reasonable objection — against the establishment recommended. They were as some of them acknowledge, aggressors in the War, without even a pretence of provocation; they violated the Convention of Neutrality made with Congress at Albany in 1775, and in return for proffered protection and liberal

Supplies

hostilities, and to the utter ruin and impoverishment of thousands of families, they wantonly desolated our Villages and Settlements, and destroyed our Citizens — To stop the progress of their outrages, the War at a vast expence, was carried to the United States into their own Country which they abandoned. Waving then the right of Conquest, and the various precedents which might be quoted in similar instances, a bare recollection of the facts is sufficient to manifest the obligation they are under to make atonement for the enormities which they have perpetrated, by a reasonable compensation for the expences which the United States have incurred by their wanton barbarity, and they possess no other means to do this act of Justice than by a compliance with the proposed boundaries. The Committee are of opinion that in the Negotiation which they recommend, care ought to be taken neither to yield or require too much — to accomodate the Indians as far as the public good will admit — and if they should appear dissatisfied at the Lines which it may be found necessary to establish, rather to give them some compensation for their Claims than to hazard a War, which will be much more expensive. But it is supposed that when they shall be informed of the Estimates of the damages which our Citizens have sustained by their irruptions, and of the expences which the United States have incurred to check their career, it will have a tendency to suppress any extravagant demands —

Whereupon

Resolved, That a Convention be held with the Indians residing in the Northern and Middle Departments, who have taken up Arms against the United States, for the purposes of receiving them into the favour and protection of the United States — and of establishing boundary lines of property; for separating and dividing the Settlements of the Citizens from the Indian Villages and Hunting Grounds and thereby

extinguishing

extinguishing as far as possible all occasion for future animosities disquiet and contention — That

First and as a preliminary it shall be required, that all Prisoners of whatever age or sex among those Indians shall be delivered up

Secondly that the Indians be informed that after a contest of eight years for the sovereignty of this Country, Great Britain has relinquished to the United States all claims to all the Country within the limits described by the second article of the provisional Treaty between the United States and the King of Great Britain on the thirtieth day of November in the year 1782, that is to say from the North West angle of Nova Scotia, Viz: that angle which is formed by a line drawn due North from the source of St Croix River to the Highlands, along the said Highlands which divide those Rivers that empty themselves into the River St Lawrence from those which fall into the Atlantic Ocean to the Northwestermost head of the River Connecticut, thence down along the middle of that River to the forty fifth degree of North Latitude from thence by a line due West on said Latitude until it strikes the River Iroquois or Cataraqui thence along the middle of said River into Lake Ontario through the middle of said Lake until it strikes the communication by water between that Lake and Lake Erie thence along the middle of said communication into Lake Erie through the middle of said Lake until it arrives at the water communication between that Lake and Lake Huron, thence into Lake Huron, thence through the middle of the said Lake to the water communication along the middle of said water communication between that Lake and Lake Superior, thence through Lake Superior Northward of the Isles Royal & Philipheaux to the Long Lake thence through the middle of said Long Lake and the Water communication between it and the Lake of the Woods, to the said Lake of the Woods, thence through the said Lake to the most North Western point thereof, and from thence on a due West course to the River Mississippi, thence by a line to be

drawn

drawn along the middle of the said River Mississippi until it shall intersect the Northernmost part of the thirty first degree of North Latitude South by a line to be drawn due East from the determination of the line last mentioned in the Latitude of thirty one degrees North of the Equator to the middle of the River Apalachicola or Catahouchi thence along the middle thereof to its junction with the Flint River, thence strait to the head of St Mary's River, and thence down along the middle of St Mary's River to the Atlantic Ocean, East by a line to be drawn along the middle of the River St Croix from its mouth in the Bay of Fundy to its source, and from its source directly North to the aforesaid Highlands which divide the Rivers which fall into the Atlantic Ocean, from those which fall into the River St Lawrence, comprehending all Islands within twenty leagues of any part of the shores of the United States and lying between lines to be drawn due East from the points where the aforesaid boundaries between Nova Scotia on the one part and East Florida on the other, shall respectively touch the Bay of Fundy and the Atlantic Ocean, Excepting such Islands as now are or heretofore have been within the limits of the said Province of Nova Scotia —

Thirdly, that as the Indians notwithstanding a solemn Treaty of Neutrality with Congress at the commencement of the War — notwithstanding all the advice and admonition given them during its prosecution could not be restrained from acts of hostility and wanton devastation, but were determined to join their arms to those of Great Britain and to share their fortunes, so consequently with a less generous people than Americans, they might be compelled to retire beyond the Lakes — But as we prefer clemency to rigour as we perfuade ourselves that their eyes are open to their error, and that they have found by fatal experience that their true interest

interest and safety must depend upon our friendship as the Country is large enough to contain and support us all, and as we are disposed to be kind to them to supply their wants and to partake of their trade, We from these considerations and from motives of humanity and compassion draw a veil over what is past, and will establish a boundary line between them and us, beyond which we will restrain our Citizens from hunting and settling and within which the Indians shall not come but for the purposes of trading treating, or other business equally unexceptionable —

Fourthly that the following lines shall be proposed to be mutually agreed upon and established between the United States and the several Tribes of Indians who shall be affected thereby Beginning at the mouth of the great Miami River which empties into the Ohio thence along the said River Miami until it enters into its confluence with the Mad River thence by a direct line to the Miami Fort at the Village of that name on the other Miami River which empties into Lake Erie thence along the last mentioned River to Lake Erie comprehending all the Lands between the abovementioned lines and the State of Pennsylvania on the East, Lake Erie on the North and the River Ohio on the South East.

Fifthly that the Commissioners for the Northern and Middle Departments or such other persons as may be appointed by Congress unite together

in

in holding one Convention with the Indians inhabiting the Districts aforesaid and their Allies and Dependants for the purposes aforesaid, and only yield to separate Conventions in case of inevitable necessity—

Sixthly, and whereas the Oneida and Tuscarora Tribes have adhered to the cause of America, and joined her Arms in the late War, and Congress have frequently assured them of peculiar marks of favour and friendship the said Commissioners are therefore instructed to re-assure the said Tribes of the friendship of the United States, that they may rely that the Lands which they claim as their inheritance will be reserved for their sole use and benefit until they may think it for their own advantage to dispose of the same—

Seventhly that the said Commissioners be and they are hereby instructed to obtain a particular account of the Traders Inhabitants at Detroit, Illinois and other Villages within the Territories of the United States and that they give assurances in the name of the United States to those Inhabitants who shall profess their allegiance to the United States that they shall be protected in the full enjoyment of their liberty and their just and lawful property—

Eighthly that the said Commissioners be and they are hereby instructed not to admit into a Treaty with the said Indians or suffer to be in any manner connected with it any Article Stipulation or Condition whatsoever making or confirming or tending to make or confirm to any Individual or Individuals any

any grant or grants of land whether real or pretended within the bounds of the United States as before described

Ninthly that the said Commissioners be and they are hereby also instructed to obtain information of the numbers and places of residence of the Citizens of the United States who have seated themselves on the North West side of the Ohio — to signify to them the displeasure of Congress that they have taken this step with which the public interest and theirs are so intimately connected without permission or authority, and to discourage to the utmost of their power all intrusion into any of the Territories of the United States and within their respective Departments —

And whereas the trade with the Indians ought to be regulated and security given by the traders for the punctual observance of such regulations, so that violence fraud and injustice towards the Indians may be guarded against and prevented, and the honour of the Federal Government and the public tranquillity thereby promoted Resolved that a Committee be appointed with instructions to prepare and report an Ordinance to regulate the Indian Trade with a clause therein strictly prohibiting all Civil and Military Officers and particularly all Commissioners and Agents for Indian Affairs from trading with the Indians or purchasing or being directly or indirectly concerned in purchasing lands from Indians except only by the express license and

authority

authority of the United States in Congress assembled

March 19th 1784

On the report of a Committee to whom were referred the fourth and fifth of the Instructions of the 15th October 1783 to the Commissioners for negotiating Treaties with the Indians

Resolved that the 4th and 5th Articles of the Instructions of the 15th October 1783 to the Commissioners for negotiating Treaties with the Indians be and they are hereby repealed and in lieu thereof the following be substituted

Fourthly That a meridian line passing through the lowest point of the rapids of Ohio to the Northern boundary of the said United States shall be proposed as the line of division between the several Indian Tribes and these States, so that all the lands contained between the said boundary on the North the Ohio on the South the said Meridian on the West and Pennsylvania on the East, or any part thereof as the Tribes having title thereto may be induced to part with, shall be ceded to the United States and possession thereof or any parts thereof be given to the United States at such times as may be agreed upon in the Treaty

Fifthly The said Commissioners are instructed as far as they shall find it convenient to treat with the several Nations at different times and places and where necessity shall oblige them to bring two or more Nations together that they still keep their Treaties and Conferences as distinct as may

may be— That they countenance every disposition in any one of the
six Nations to treat and act separately and independently, and
that in general they discourage every coalition and consultation
which might tend to involve any one Nation in the Wars of
the others—

The United States in Congress assembled

(LS) To all who shall see these Presents Send Greeting

Signed Thomas Mifflin

Whereas we have judged it proper that
one or more convention or conventions be held with the
Indians residing within the boundaries of the United
States of America in the Northern and Middle Depart=
ments, comprehending the whole of the Indians known
by the name of the six Nations and all to the Northward
and Westward of them and as far South as the Cherokees
inclusive, for the purposes of receiving them into the favour and
protection of the United States, and of establishing boundary
lines of property for separating and dividing the settlements of
the citizens of the United States of America from the
Indian Villages and hunting Grounds and thereby extin=
guishing as far as possible all occasion of future animosities
disquiet and vexation; Now therefore Know Ye
that we reposing special Trust and confidence in the integrity
prudence and ability of our trusty and beloved George
Rogers Clarke, Oliver Wolcott, Nathaniel Green, Richard

Butler

Butler and Stephen Higginson have nominated constituted and appointed them the said George Rogers Clarke Oliver Wolcott Nathaniel Greene Richard Butler and Stephen Higginson for our Commissioners giving and granting to them or to any three of them full power and authority for us and in our name to confer treat agree and conclude with the said Indians or with any Nation or Tribe of the Indians within the boundaries of the United States or bordering thereon in the Northern and Middle Departments aforesaid of and concerning the establishment of peace with the said Indians extinguishing their claims and settling boundaries between them and the citizens of the United States in as ample form and with the same effect as if we were personally present and acted therein hereby promising to hold valid and to fulfill and execute whatever shall be agreed upon concluded and signed by our said Commissioners or any three of them — In testimony whereof we have caused the seal of the United States to be hereunto affixed Witness his Excellency Thomas Mifflin President of the United States in Congress assembled this twelfth day of March in the year of our Lord One thousand seven hundred and eighty four and of our Independence the eighth

United States in Congress assembled

June 3d 1784

Whereas it is necessary to expedite the holding Treaties with the Indian Nations which it appears cannot be done but

under

under the protection of an armed force — therefore

Resolved that the Secretary in the War Office be and he is hereby directed to order three hundred men of the Militia directed to be raised by the Act of this day to be in readiness to march when and to what place or places the Commissioners for negotiating with the Indians or any two of them shall direct And that the commanding Officer of the said troops give such protection to the Commissioners as they or any two of them shall require And that the said Secretary give order to the different Keepers of the public Stores to furnish to the order of the Commissioners or any two of them such Tents Marquees and other Articles as the said Commissioners shall think proper

Resolved that Superintendant of Finance take order for purchasing and transmitting the Articles necessary for the Indian Treaties according to a List hereunto annexed to such places as the Commissioners appointed to negotiate with the Indians or any two of them shall direct — that he furnish such additional Articles not exceeding four thousand Dollars as the said Commissioners shall order

The following Messages were sent to the different Tribes of Indians known by the name of the six Nations — one to the Oneida and Tuscarora and the other to the four hostile Tribes — the Mohawks Onondagoes Cayugas and Senekas —

To the Sachems and Warriors of the Oneida and Tuscarora Tribes —

Brethren

Brethren

The late troubles in which we have been mutually involved being happily ended Congress have thought proper to appoint us Commissioners to transact all public business between the United States and our Brethren the Oneidas and Tuscaroras and to settle a general peace with all the Indian Nations from the Ohio River to the great Lakes—

To the Mohawks Onondagos Cayugas & Senekas.

Sachems & Warriors hearken to our Messenger and believe the words which he brings—

War being at an end and peace concluded between the United States and the King of England, it is the wish of the United States to live in peace with all Nations. Congress have therefore appointed us Commissioners to represent the United States and have directed us to call the different nations of Indians together to their Council fire at such place as may be most convenient and have given us power to transact all public business and to negotiate a general peace with the Six Nations and all the nations of Indians from the Ohio River to the great Lakes.

Fort Stanwix, October 3. 1784

The Commissioners met, present Wolcott Butler and Peter Gansevoort Esqrs

Many of the Chiefs and Warriors of the different Nations having arrived the Commissioners convened them in the Council place, where the following speech was delivered to them

Sachems & Warriors of the Six Nations present

It is with pleasure that we announce to you that we are Commissioners sent by Congress who are the great Council of the United States

States of America to kindle a Council fire at this place where we may smoke the calumet together undisturbed by evil thoughts and renew the chain of alliance with you our friendly Brothers, and give peace and good counsel to those who have been unfortunately led astray by evil advisers. We therefore wish you to put away all evil thoughts and cleanse your hearts and minds that we may begin the good work with sincerity in which we invoke the great and good God to assist us. We expect the Head Men and Warriors of the Western Tribes of the Six Nations will attend in a few days, when we shall speak more fully and go into the business generally.

We know from experience that ill winds blow from every quarter and that birds fly about with evil chirpings in order to distract the minds and understandings of people when convened on such occasions. We therefore warn you against them that you may not hearken to them, nor be led into the evils which they intend. We also tell you that we are fully authorised to transact all business between the United States and You — and that without the authority of Congress no business can be valid that may be attempted by particular people or states.

We shall say no more at present but desire you to hearken to the voice of Kayenlaa the Marquis de la Fayette, a great Man among the French — one of the Head Warriors of the great Onondio, and as you all know a General in the American Army and a Head man among us who comes with his friends to pay you a visit and give you the advice of a father.

(a white string)

To

To which Kayenthogke a Chief of the Senekas, replied

Brothers Commissioners from the United States of America

You have this day assembled us at the place appointed for hold-
ing a Treaty between the United States and us, and have informed us
that you are Commissioners appointed by Congress, who you tell us is the
great Council of the United States of America to give peace to all the
Indian Nations—

Brothers

We congratulate you on your safe arrival here and are
truly glad to see you— Peace, which you mention, to be the object of
your coming is, what we have long and fervently wished for.

We thank you for your good counsel. We know as you
observed that birds often fly about with evil chirpings, and that ill winds
blow from every quarter to trouble and distract the minds of persons
when engaged in affairs of so important a nature as the present— but
we trust that our ears will be shut so as to reject all their evil words—
and that nothing will hinder us from happily ending the good work
which we have come upon.

Brothers

You informed us that you expected the Chiefs of the six
Nations would be here in a few days— and that then you would enter
fully upon the business. These, Brothers, were your words. We wish
that every thing may turn out to the advantage of the present Treaty
for truly we are for peace.

Let the ears of the Commissioners of the United States be

opened

ofsered to receive the words which we have said. It is our wish that all paft offences may be forgotten, and that there may be a general peace between us and our Brethren the Americans.

(A String)

October 8th 1784

The Commiſsioners met, present as before

Captain Aaron Hill a Chief of the Mohawks having this day arrived with a party of Indians of that Nation and some Shawanese and Delawares the Commiſsioners aſsembled them in the Council house where they addreſsed them thus —

Sachems & Warriors of the party lately arrived

These are the words which we ſpoke at our firſt meeting with the Tribes that were aſsembled at this Council fire —

(The Speech of the 5th was delivered to which the following was subjoined)

"We also bid you welcome and desire your ears and understandings may be clear that the dust and ſweat be wiped from your bodies and the thorns be extracted from your sides — that good thoughts prevail and your hearts be sincerely diſsposed to do that which is right in forwarding the good work which we are met upon. We shall endeavour to render you happy while here and expect you will conduct yourselves like men of sense."

a White string)

To which one of the Chiefs replied

"That as they expected more of their Head men would arrive in a few days they would be glad to defer answering the Addreſs of the Commiſsioners 'till their arrival."

October

October 12. 1784

The Commissioners met present as before.

Capt. Aaron Hill a Mohawk Chief addressed himself to the Commissioners, thus

After having acknowledged the receipt of the invitation of the Commissioners of the United States to come to their Council fire - he said

That the reason why they had not before attended were, that they had been frequently invited by the Governor of the State of New York to come to a Treaty with that State - that they enquired of the messenger, whether the Treaty was in behalf of the United States or of the State of New York only - to which he replied that it was not a continental Treaty but a particular one of that State - That they had written to the Governor of New York requesting that it might be a continental Treaty - but that he had never answered their letter which kept them in a state of doubt until they received a message from the Commissioners of the United States when it was so late in the day that it was impossible for such numbers to come as otherwise would have attended. Also that the sickness which universally pervaded their Country was another cause of so small a number being present.

That with respect to the prisoners they were desired to bring with them, it was so late in the day when they received the Message from the Commissioners of the United States, that it was impossible for them to collect them in time - but that Captain Brandt whom he had met on his way hither had promised

to have them collected and sent down (assuring the Commissioners) that it was a matter absolutely determined upon that they should be delivered up—

That a number of their Brothers to the Westward the Wiandots in particular had returned home by reason of the advanced season of the year after having come as far as to Niagara, so that there were only present themselves and their Brothers the Shawanese.

(The message belt was returned)

After which the Commissioners addressed them thus

Sachems & Warriors

When we last met we informed you that we were Commissioners appointed by Congress the great Council of the United States and authorized to transact all business to be done with the Indian Nations—and that the Commissioners of the United States and they alone or such other persons as Congress should appoint were competent to perform this service, and that you ought not therefore to listen to any overtures made to you by any person or body of men or by any particular State not authorized by Congress.

That you may be assured of the authority under which we act, we will now publish to you our Commission which we have received from the Congress of the United States.

(The Commission published with a belt N:2.)

We have it in charge from Congress to inform the Tribes of the Six Nations who were so unfortunate as to be seduced by ill

advisors

advisers to join the British Army during the late War, that the United States having made peace with the King of Great Britain in a manner entirely agreeable to themselves and correspondent to their utmost wishes — and having settled all differences with all people except the Indian Nations are ready on their part if desired to give peace to those Nations also upon just and reasonable terms and to receive them into the friendship favour and protection of the United States —

That the Tribes here present may know upon what terms the United States have made peace with the King of Great Britain we will communicate to you the definitive Treaty of peace entered into between the United States and him

(The Treaty was then read and a belt given)

That you may be satisfied that the United States are the sole Sovereigns within the limits just now described to you, in the Treaty with the King of Great Britain and therefore the sole power to whom all the Nations living within those limits are hereafter to look up for protection we shall read to you part of the Treaty of Alliance between the United States and his most Christian Majesty by which he renounces all claim to the said Country

(The sixth Article of the Treaty was read and a String given)

By the Treaty which has been read between the United States and the King of Great Britain the Indian Nations will perceive that that King renounces and yields to the United States all pretensions and claims whatsoever to all the Country South and West of the great Northern Rivers and Lakes as far as the

the Mississippi —

They will also perceive and consider that by the Treaty no mention is made by the King of Great Britain of any Indian nation or tribe whatsoever, but that he have left those tribes to seek for peace with the United States upon such terms as the United States shall think just and reasonable —

Brothers of the Oneida Tuscarora & Coghnewagha Tribes, listen to what we say to those who took up the hatchet against us —

Sachems and Warriors

We informed you in our Message that we should expect you to bring in and deliver up all the prisoners white and black which you took from us during the War — You have told us that it is your determination to deliver them up — that you have sent to collect them and expect they will arrive here daily. We must inform you that delivering up all your prisoners is essential to your obtaining peace, and in reliance on what you have promised and in expectation of their soon arriving here we shall now proceed to other matters. But there are John Chamandse Peter Augustus Lemkonges and Hans Crevie some of our friendly Indians whose desire may be immediately released from their parole — ( a Belt )

The United States in making peace with the Tribes here present will expect in order to prevent future difficulties and disputes that you will propose such a boundary line between the United States and you, as will be just for you to offer and honorable for the United States to agree to. This salutary measure will entitle such tribes

to

to a participation of that liberality and protection of the United States which we perfectly well know to be their interest to embrace.

As we do not wish to burthen your memory with too great a variety of objects at one time, we will say no more at present, but only mention that as the matters which we have mentioned are of the last importance to your peace and happiness we expect you will take them into your immediate consideration and return us a satisfactory answer.

The Commissioners then informed Captain O Bail a Seneca Chief that they had received a letter from the Head Men of six Townships whereby he was authorized to act on their part. That they were happy in having business to transact with a person of his wisdom and good name.

To which Captain O Bail replied

"Let the Commissioners the Representatives of the United States listen.

You have this day assembled at the place appointed for holding a Council fire and surely the day was fixed upon by the great Spirit for the purpose. You have opened fully your minds to us and we see the business to be done at this treaty. We shall take it into our immediate and mature consideration and whenever we shall be prepared you shall hear our voice.

October 17th 1784

In consequence of intelligence received by the arrival of nine Senecas of the death of a daughter of Captain O Bail the Commissioners accompanied

accompanied as usual, and in the Council house where the Indians had assembled in order to condole with him on his misfortune And the ceremonies of condolence being over Captain Jaron Hill informed the Commissioners that they were ready to answer to their speech of the 12th, and accordingly addressed them thus

Brothers Commissioners of the United States

The great spirit has once more brought us together upon the important business which you proposed to us some days ago. We shall endeavour to give you as full and satisfactory an answer as may be in our power though should we not be sufficiently precise we must not be blamed as we had not a copy of your speech agreeably to our desire.

You informed us that this great Council fire was kindled for the purpose of settling all differences and disputes between the United States and us - of concluding a general peace - and of confirming that pacific disposition which at present appears mutually to subsist between us.

These you informed us were your intentions. You also acquainted us that it remained entirely with us whether there should be peace or not, and that it was your wish to establish a lasting peace. I see clearly the purport of your speech and beg your attention to the words of the Warriors for there are no Chiefs among us.

The words of the Warriors are strong. They are persons who have travelled through the World and have borne all the difficulties of the War. It is in their power therefore to make a lasting

peace

peace. You told that it depended solely on us to make peace – but we apprehend that it is equally dependant on both parties. I speak in the name of the six Nations and not only in their name but also in the name of all the other tribes. My voice therefore is strong. Our minds are deep and persevering and our wish to obtain peace is great. We are neither haughty nor proud nor is it our disposition ever of ourselves to commence hostilities. Our adherence to the covenant which we had made with the great King drew us into the late War, and ought to be a proof to the Commissioners of our strict observance of our ancient covenants with the white people and they will find the same attachment to the covenants about to be made as is that which signalized our conduct during the late War.

Brothers

We are free and independent and at present under no influence. We have hitherto been bound by the great King – but he having broke the chain has left us to ourselves, so that we are again free. We therefore wish that the Commissioners would consider what we say – as of ourselves – and not as being under the influence of any – that as a free and independent people we have a right to treat of peace – which we wish to be so settled that if in future either party should go to War the other may give their assistance or refuse it as it may please them.

(A string)

Then taking up the belt of the Commissioners which was delivered

delivered on reading their Commission, he said

Brothers

By this belt you informed us that you were authorized by Congress to settle a peace with us, and to prove that your powers were competent you produced your Commission from the Congress of the United States. We doubt not but that you are fully competent, and we and our Brothers the six Nations feel ourselves greatly obliged to you for being so kind as to produce your authority.

You directed us not to attend to what any particular State might say to us on public business, for that the Commissioners of Congress alone were adequate to that purpose.

We of the six Nations are fully sensible of the truth of this and we think that no particular State can have a right to treat separately, but that it belongs only to the United States. In consequence of this when the Governor of New York sent a Message to us, to assemble us here in order to treat with that State, we requested that it might be a continental treaty as we conceived that the United States formed one general system or plan.

(then taking up a string, he said)

By this string, Brothers Commissioners, you informed us that peace was established between the United States and the King of Great Britain which the great Spirit was called to witness, and then you go on to inform us of the boundary line established between the great King and the United States, beginning near Halifax and running thence &c (mentioning the boundary described

to

to them by the Commissioners agreeably to the definitive Treaty of Peace)
This you assured us is your boundary that all the territory within it
is the property of the United States, and that all the nations residing
therein must look up to them for protection.—

You also assured us that the great King in settling peace with
you made no mention of us, but left us to seek for ourselves. Certainly
that King did not look up to the great Spirit whom he had called
as a witness to that Treaty otherwise common justice would not have
suffered him to neglect those who had been so just and so faithful
to him.— And we think that our Brothers the United States did
not think of the great Spirit, otherwise they would have mentioned
to the great King those persons who had been so faithful to him, when
they found that he had entirely neglected them.—

As the Commissioners have informed us of their powers to
treat, I shall now inform them that we are the only persons enhower-
ed to treat of and conclude a peace, not only on the part of the six
Nations, but also on that of the Ottawa Chippewa Wyrions Pototwatamas
Mesasaugas Miamis Delawares Cherokees Shawanese Chickasaws
Choctaws and Creeks, whatever conclusion is made at this treaty
will be strong, and whatever passes will be communicated through-
out all the different tribes (A string N° 2)

Then taking up the black & white string he said

Brothers Commissioners of the thirteen United States

By this string you acquainted us that the King of France
had ceded to the United States all claim and title to any lands
within

within their boundary. We have only to thank the great Spirit for putting it into the mind of the King of France to make this cession as it is well known that he is extremely saving of his lands, and that the United States are in great want of them

(black & white string)

(then taking up a belt he laid it down and taking another in his hand, said)

Brothers Commissioners of the thirteen United States

By the belt which I held in my hand to which this is a reply you informed us that it was indispensibly essential to the making of Peace that all the prisoners should be delivered up, and that nothing could be finally done therein till that should be the case.

We would propose to the Commissioners that for this purpose they should depute persons of their own nation to go and collect them least if it should rest with us the Commissioners might apprehend that we were not all brought in and we will give them for this purpose all the assistance in our power

As the day is at present so far advanced, we will defer the other matter till to morrow, when we will answer to your last requisition

(a belt)

The Commissioners then requested that they would assemble as early in the morning as possible — and thereupon retired from the Council house —

October 18. 1784

Agreeable to their appointments of yesterday the Indians assembled

assembled in the Council house in order to answer fully to the requisition of the Commissioners respecting a boundary line, and having informed them of their convention the Commissioners accompanied as usual attended in the Council house

Capt. O Bail spoke

Brothers Commissioners of the thirteen United States and all present of the Six nations attend!

Yesterday at your Council fire many things were replied to, but one principal matter was deferred 'till to day when we informed you that we would answer you fully—

Brothers

You addressed yourselves to us of the Six Nations and requested that we should propose a boundary line between you and us— which might be honourable and satisfactory to you, and might afford peace to our own minds—

We who are here present of one mind, thank you for your proposal; We conceive that the great Spirit has prompted you to it) that our minds may be quieted—

Brothers

Compose your minds— the day is almost too short for an answer to so important a question— and we hope that it will give you no uneasiness that we have not yet answered to it, for we Indians love our lands. We have deliberated long upon this subject, because when we have once made a line of division between us the lands which are granted will be no longer ours— One matter

matter of great importance to the Seneca Nation should be brought to your view before we make any final determination. We have long been in possession of our territory – there are many here who know it – who know that it extended far, and that we had great love to it

We Senecas are not of difficult minds – we have possessed our territory a long time, and managed our own affairs while the United States and the King of Great Britain were friends. and during the whole time of the wars to the southward we never called upon any for assistance –

While the wars were carried on among the Indians we heard the voice of the great King speaking to the Mohawks – this was his language – "Why do you of one blood fight thus one against another?"

– We were then exhorted by the Mohawks to drop the hatchet and to carry it no longer to the Westward – We complied with their exhortations and carried War no longer among those tribes. When Peace was thus settled among ourselves – the voice of war was heard between the United States and the King of Great Britain. At this time the King's Superintendant removed the Council fire that was kindled this way and our Brothers the Mohawks followed it from one place to another. This person was Col. Guy Johnston who continued to remove the Council fire from place to place until he at last kindled it at Oswego and sowed the seeds of confusion into our minds –

The King's Superintendant then called us to the Council fire which he had kindled in Canada among the seven Tribes that were

then

then present when he took out what distracted our minds – he gave us even the hatchet which when given the seven tribes of Canada received with great eagerness.

When we Senecas received the hatchet we returned to our Country and convened at the Council fire of the Onondagoes that they might also deliberate with us upon the matter. In our deliberations at that Council fire, we agreed to return the hatchet and to deliver it up to Genl. Schuyler.

We have now related to you the manner in which the hatchet was taken up. It came from the seven Nations in Canada who prevailed upon us to take it up – for which reason we did not sufficiently attend to your voice, when it called upon us to remain neutral. We must again declare that the hatchet was put into our hand by those seven tribes of Canada for we Indians love our own blood –

Brothers

As we proposed to relate to you the truth respecting the cause of our entering into the war with the United States – we hope that the relation which we have given may not prove disagreeable to you – 'tis our wish that we may never be again in the like situation – for we are sincerely disposed to peace and friendship the great business of the present Treaty.

Brothers Representatives of the thirteen United States.

You have allotted to me the task of running a line between us to your satisfaction – I feel the weight of it – I feel for many of my Brothers, who will be left destitute of any lands and have therefore taken

taken care in my deliberations to mark out that line which will give peace to both our minds— I hope that in our negotiations nothing but friendship will prevail, and I am fully certain that you will never conduct yourselves towards us as the King of Great Britain has done in throwing us away—

Brothers Commissioners of the thirteen States, listen!

When we shall have drawn the line between us whatever shall remain within the boundary allotted to us shall be our own—it shall continue as the sun which rolls over from day to day.

Brothers

Let us go on in this important business with tenderness and caution. Should what I say to you not meet with a kind reception into your breasts, it would greatly distress me— for I who stand before you am a Warrior— should it not inform me whilst I am here.

Brothers

I have several times repeated my request that we should proceed tenderly in this business— for I regard future generations and to them I attend, while engaged in making peace with you—

Our fires will be at a considerable distance from each other— when I come to describe the boundary between us. This will tend to our mutual peace— I think Brothers that we Warriors should have a large country to range in, as our subsistence will depend on our having much hunting ground— and as it will also bring in money to you, it will tend to our mutual advantage— Now Brothers I

am

am about to draw the line. Here we conceive do ourselves as the Land belongs solely to us— Let it begin at Tioga and run thence by a straight line inclining a little to the North to Olliga and when it strikes the River Ohio let it go down its stream to the old boundary on the Cherokee River— As to the territory Westward of that you must talk respecting it with the Western Nations towards the setting of the Sun— They must consult of what part they must cede to the United States—

Brothers

Should you approve of this boundary, you will direct your people not to trespass upon our territory or pass over the line— And should any of our nations attempt to pass over or intrude upon your lands— let us know it— and we will take care to reprimand them and prevent it.

Brother

By this belt you now see my mind. If what I have mentioned be approved of by you lay it along the Tioga as I have said— if not I again request you to inform me.

Brothers Commissioners of the thirteen United States.

I now introduce to you that neighbor from hare a chief man of our nation, who should you approve of the boundary which I have described will attend your Surveyor—

The Commissioners then informed them that they had heard what they had said and would take into their consideration, and should they not approve of it when they were prepared to give them an answer they would let them know

October

October 20th 1784. A.M.

The Commissioners met. Present as before

Resolved

That a Council be held with the Indians at one o'clock this day, and that notice thereof be given them

1 o'clock — P.M.

Agreeably to their resolution of this day the Commissioners accompanied as usual, met in the Council house where the Indians having convened the following speech was delivered

Sachems & Warriors

We are now going to reply to the answer you made to our speech, therefore open your ears and hear!

You informed us that your words were not the words of the Six Nations only, but that you were empowered to speak for all the Indian nations from the North to the South: This surprizes us. We summoned the Six Nations only to this Treaty. That nations not called should send their voices hither is extraordinary. But you have not shewn us any authority either in writing or by belts for your speaking in their names. Without shewing such authority your words will pass away like the winds of yesterday that are heard no more.

You have complained that we have refused you a copy of our speech which might lead you into error —

When we refused it, we gave you our reason which was this — that having explained our minds publicly and clearly to

you

you all and given you bells and strings to remind you of every proposition we did not chuse you to be deceived and our meaning to be misrepresented by the few persons among you who understood English and might have explained our speech if we gave a copy of it as they heard. We knew there were such persons among you who wished to deceive you and under the direction of those who led you into the War against us were planning to mislead you again for their own purposes. We did not wish to put you into the power of such persons but to clear your eyes and your understandings — we explained at your own desire over and over again our speech to you, and the strings and bells which accompanied every part of it.

You next excuse your having taken up arms against us by alledging you were drawn into it by your ancient covenant with the King of England. Where was your sense of covenants, when after so solemnly covenanting with us in 1775 and again as solemnly in 1776. receiving our presents to cover you to comfort and to strengthen you — immediately you took up the hatchet against us and struck us with all your might. Could you have so soon forgotten your recent engagements with us — and yet be influenced by those long past with the King of England?

We asked you — we exhorted you for your own sakes to remain neuter — tho' as living on the same ground with us we had a right to exact your allegiance against all invaders. You twice solemnly covenanted not to join in the war against us, and without the smallest provocation on our part you violated your covenants and spilt our blood. We should not have called to mind this conduct had

you

you will attempted to justify it. You must not deceive yourselves nor hope to deceive us. To justify errors may lead to a recommission of them - and it will be more safe and honourable to repent of than to palliate a conduct which the mischievous to us has been fatal to you and has left you at our mercy.

Again you are mistaken in supposing that having been excluded from the treaty between the United States and the King of England you are become a free and independent nation and may make what terms you please. It is not so. You are a subdued people. You have been overcome in a war which you entered into with us, not only without provocation but in violation of the most sacred obligations. The great spirit who is at the same time the judge and avenger of perfidy hath given us victory over all our Enemies. We are at peace with all but you. You stand alone against our whole force.

When we offer you peace upon moderate terms, we do it in magnanimity and mercy. If you do not accept it now, you are not to expect a repetition of such offers. Consider well therefore your situation and ours. Do not suffer yourselves again to be deceived, so as to raise our arm against you. You feel the sad effects of having refused this counsel before. Beware how you do it again.

Compassionating your situation we endeavoured to make the terms on which you were to be admitted into the peace and protection of the United States appear to spring from your own conviction, and not from a necessity imposed by us. We therefore proposed to you to deliver us the prisoners and to promise a boundary line

such

such as it became the United States to agree to.

On neither of these points have you given us the smallest satisfaction. You propose that we should depute people of our own nation to go and collect the prisoners. This you know from experience to be impracticable that it would only provoke insult and perhaps the murder of such deputies by the persons who hold our fellow citizens in bondage. You only can collect them—you only ought to collect them—you must collect them and deliver them up. Our words are strong and we mean you should feel them. With regard to the boundary line, you have proposed the lands to the North west of it have almost all been sold already to Congress—And all the land South west of it to the Cherokee River, was sold by you in the year 1768 and is all granted and settled by the white people.

We shall now therefore declare to you the conditions on which alone you can be received into the peace and protection of the United States. [These conditions are those contained in the treaty of peace with the Six Nations which was concluded Oct. 22. 1784.]

We shall now make a few remarks on these articles though the moderation and equity of them are manifest.

1st It is more than six months since you were informed by General Schuyler in the name of Congress that you must deliver up all the prisoners before peace could be granted you. Our Message gave you the same information, yet you have not delivered them up. As the delivery of them is indispensible so you have rendred hostages necessary by your delay.

2. It does not become the United States to forget the perfidious nations who

who preserved their faith to them and adhered to their cause. these there-
fore must be secured in the full and free enjoyment of their possessions.

3dly. The line proposed leaves as extensive a Country to the remain-
ing four nations as they can in reason desire, and more than from their
conduct in the War, they could expect. The King of Great Britain ceded
to the United States the whole. By the right of conquest they might
claim the whole, yet they have taken but a small part compared
with their numbers and their wants. Their warriors must be
provided for. Compensations must be made for the blood and treasure
which they have expended in the War. The great increase of their
people renders more lands essential to their subsistence. It is there-
fore necessary that such a boundary line should be settled, as will
make effectual provision for these demands and prevent any future
cause of difference and dispute.

4thly. It ought to be felt by you as a signal proof of the magna-
nimity of the United States that tho' the distresses of most of the six
Nations have been incurred by their own fault in fighting against
them, yet they have determined to minister such as left to them, as
at present is in their power—

These are the terms on which you may obtain perpetual
peace with the United States and enjoy their protection. You must be
sensible that these are blessings which cannot be purchased at
too high a price. Be wise and answer us accordingly

To which Capt. O'Bail replied

Brothers, Commissioners of the thirteen United States.

You

You have this day declard your minds to us fully and without disguise. We thank you for it. This is acting like men for thus men speak. We will take what you have said into our most serious consideration, and when we shall have prepared our = selves to answer to what you have proposed. you shall hear our voice.

October 21 st 1784

The Indians having assembled in the Council house, in = formed the Commissioners that they were prepared to answer to what they had proposed in their speech of the 20th, whereupon the Com = missioners accompanied as usual met in the Council house.

Captain Aharonhill addressed them thus

Brothers, Commissioners of the thirteen United States attend!

You yesterday replied to the last speech which we made to you in answer to certain matters which you proposed for our consider = ation. We are authorized that you misunderstood what we said for the speech of our Brothers plainly shews that they did not under = stand our meaning. I will now therefore relate the eight principal articles which were contained in our speech.

Brothers

Upon your informing us that this Council fire was kindled for the purpose of making peace — We replied that we loved peace — that our minds were thick firm and determined — that we were resolved that the peace then to be made should be so strongly founded that no person should ever have it in their power to demolish it —

We

We likewise assured you that we were not trifling — that we were relieved from our covenant with the great King and consequently could establish peace on a firm basis — that we would not be wavering that our minds were long and persevering and that in case a war should break out between you and the King of Great Britain, we should have it in our power to assist you or not if we were asked and even if not called upon we should still be able, for that as free and independent people we might act in that case as we should think proper — and further that if a war should again break out between the United States and the King of Great Britain, if you desired we would sit still and remain neuter — that the Treaty now to be made should be held up for ever between us and should conduct us in future.

You likewise informed us that as we did not produce any bells or written proofs for our speaking in the name of those Western Tribes, our words would pass away without effect. — We did not bring any proofs with us but left them at the Council fire which is now burning with our brothers the Shawanese on the River Sandusky.

Brothers

At this place you may obtain the proofs we have mentioned. Our brother the Cornawaga acts here by virtue of the powers given to him at that council fire.

One of the prisoners of the Oneida Tribe among the hostile nations called Good Peter addressed the Commissioners in these

name

name of the Six Nations as follows ....

After repeating the boundary line described by the Commissioners in their speech of the 20th he said

Brothers Commissioners of the thirteen United States, attend to our voice!

We have considered what you proposed to us — as to the boundary let it be as you say. We will make peace with the United States upon the terms they have laid down, but Brothers let the peace be firm and unchangeable, let the great Spirit be a witness to it, and let us endeavour to fix it on so lasting a foundation that the evil Spirit who is always endeavouring to do harm, may not be able to hinder its continuance.

Brothers

There is one thing more which we request — that is that our Nation may have the liberty of hunting upon your grounds — for as we shall give our furs in exchange for your goods that will tend equally to the advantage of both parties.

(The last given by the Commissioners on proposing the boundary was returned)

(He then informed the hostile tribes of what he had said and again addressed the Commissioners in the name of these four tribes thus

Brothers

We are all agreed to give the number of hostages which you demand to remain in the possession of the United States till all your prisoners shall be delivered up —

(He then informed the Commissioners of the reason for which

* The boundary proposed was the same that is described in the 4th

which an Oneida spake instead of one of the late hostile Indians – which was that the Interpreters understood that language more perfectly than any of the other languages – And in the name of the four hostile tribes, he again addressed the Commissioners, and said

Brothers

It appears by your speech that you expect we should discover some signs of repentance for our conduct during the late War. We do repent – We assured you that we were a free and independent people and as such we make this acknowledgment.

Brothers

As you may suppose that our minds are ruffled at what has taken place we assure you that they are not – Our minds are composed and we heartily rejoice at the present peace.

To which the Commissioners replied

Sachems & Warriors

The Commissioners have attended to what you have now delivered in answer to their speech of yesterday. They thank the great Spirit that he has inspired you with wisdom to act as you have done a conduct which will establish a lasting friendship between the United States and the six Nations. The Commissioners will consider what you have said and you shall hear from them to morrow –

October 22d 1784.

The Commissioners met present as before

The

The Articles of the Treaty being prepared for signing and sealing the Indians were called upon to sign and seal them which was done — The day being too far shent at the request of the Indians the acknowledging and delivering the said Articles and the other matters of the Council were postponed till to morrow.

October 23: 1784

The Commissioners met present as before

Agreeably to the appointment of yesterday, the Indians being assembled, the Commissioners accompanied by those of Pennsylvania and the Officers of the Garrison met in the Council house where the Articles signed and sealed yesterday, and mentioned in the speech of the Commissioners of the 20th inst. were read, agreed to acknowledged and exchanged. Upon which the following speech was made to them

Chiefs & Warriors of the Seneca Mohawk Onondago and Cayuga Tribes —

We have now laid the foundation of the great and blessed work of peace. Let it be your study to compleat what we have so happily begun. Let it in future be your glory to stand to your engagements firm and immoveable. We have buried the hatchet, not only between the United States and you, but also between our friendly Indians the Oneidas Tuscaroras Mohickans and Tegneweaghas and yourselves. Let the great mountains cover it that it may never more be taken up: pursue the beasts of the forest — The great Spirit has made them for the use of man — but let the blood of man be sacred. (a belt)

two

We now open with you again the path of Trade. Our Traders shall furnish what you want in return for your furs— and it shall be the constant care of Congress that they supply you with all possible justice and good faith and it will be the endeavour of Congress to prevent those imbasions that were formerly practised. As you see it has been our study to keep you sober during the treaty, that what you did might be done with open eyes and clear understandings, that no advantage might be taken of you, nor anything stipulated but what should appear to your sober judgment to be really for your interest.

We have given you peace, and now receive you into the protection of the United States. (the) path belt given

Brothers of the Oneida & Tuscarora Tribes—

The immoveable firmness with which you have preserved your faith to Congress and attached yourselves to the fortunes of America has justly raised your glory among the nations. It is a glory that will last as long as any memory of these times shall remain. Congress has not forgot your fidelity and attachment. They would not have made peace with the hostile tribes, without securing your interests but such a peace is now concluded with them as is perfectly agreeable to you. Now you may embrace the late hostile tribes as your Brothers who have come home to you again after a long and anxious absence. Give them welcome with your whole heart. And may the great and good spirit so look upon you and so forgive you your trespasses as you forgive your Brothers.

(a belt)

Brothers of the six Nations

We have now planted the tree of peace. may the

waters

unless from all the nations of the Earth nourish it's roots. May they sink deep in the earth and last forever. May it's top reach the skies, that it may drink the purest dew of heaven, and be great and flourishing above all trees. May its branches spread far and wide that nations may repose under its shade. Let it be your constant care and let it be taught to your Children above all things to cultivate this tree as the greatest of all blessings. Beware of blasts from the north which may chill its growth and nip its buds. Such blasts may come - watch them well and shield this tree from the injury they are intended to do it.

We are charged [illegible] wherever dispersed to return to you, to cleave to you, and enjoy with you under the protection of Congress, prosperity, peace, and happiness.

If you preserve in the paths we have marked out to you, the path of peace and friendship, the work of this day will be like the everlasting sun which holds his course through the heavens giving light and life to all.

Congress is now your only protector. They have provided liberally in the goods which we shall give you, for your women, your children and your old men, so long as you conduct yourselves like good children so long you may all rely on the parental protection of the United States. (a grand belt)

The Commissioners required that they should point out at that time the people who were to be detained as hostages, which was instantly complied with. And Captain Aaron Hill, Chandaliglon, Thathnenthale, Thayogenentagelitha, Thonaute and Tiaeuthaloane were ordered to

to rise up and were declared to be the persons —

The Indians having testified their happiness at the establishment of peace once more joined themselves in friendship — and having observed all the ceremonies customarily used on such occasions, the Council fire was finally covered up and the Commissioners retired from the Council house.

## Western Treaties.

December 3d. 1784.

The Commissioners met at Pittsburgh (where there resident)

The Hon^ble

G^l Clark

C. Butler &

Arthur Lee, Esquires.

A speech from the Indian Chiefs of several villages assembled at Cayahoga dated the 20th of November was read, of which the following is a copy —

Brothers

We are very glad to hear the speech you sent to us and appointed us to meet you here in thirty six days at the fire you had kindled at Cayahoga, where we have waited for you ten or twelve days —

Brothers

Your Brothers the Delawares are all come — likewise your

To the Honorable the Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled.

The Memorial of William Trent of the State of New Jersey

Humbly Sheweth

That on the fifth day of November in the year of our Lord One thousand seven hundred and sixty eight, a Purchase was made by the Crown of Great Britain from the Six United Nations of Indians, of a very extensive Tract of Country situate upon the River Ohio in North America; the Consideration money paid for which amounted to Ten thousand five hundred and sixty pounds, seven Shillings three pence Sterling.

That in June 1769 the Honorable Thomas Walpole and his Associates presented a Petition to the Crown to be allowed to purchase a part of the said Tract upon such Terms as should be thought reasonable.

That the said Petition was referr'd to the Commissioners for Trade and Plantations; when the Earl of Hillsborough, who then presided at that Board, recommended it to the Petitioners to endeavour to contract with the Commissioners of the Treasury for such a part of the said Indian Purchase as would be sufficient to extend to form a separate Government.

That accordingly a Memorial was presented to the Commissioners of the Treasury, proposing to purchase the Tract of Land herein after described, and to pay the Sum of £10,460,7,3 Sterling for the same, and a Quitrent of two Shillings Sterling for every hundred acres of cultivable Land, within the said Tract, the said Quitrent to commence after the expiration of twenty years; the Boundaries of which Tract of Land are as follows. Beginning on the South side of the River Ohio, opposite to the Mouth of Scioto, thence Southerly through the Pass in the Cuwiolo Mountain, to the South side of the said Mountain, thence along the side of the said Mountain north easterly to the fork of Great Kenhawa made by the junction of Green Bryar and New River. thence along the said Green Briar River on the easterly side of the same into the Head or Termination of the North easterly branch thereof, thence

easterly

easterly to the Allegheny Mountains, thence along the said Allegheny Mountains to Lord Fairfax's line, thence along the same to the Spring head of the North branch of the River Potowmack, thence along the Western boundary line of Maryland to the Southern boundary line of Pennsylvania, thence along the said Southern boundary line of Pennsylvania to the end thereof, thence along the Western boundary line of Pennsylvania until the same shall strike the River Ohio, thence down the said River Ohio to the place of beginning—

That the Commissioners of the Treasury agreed to accept the Price offered to be paid for the Purchase of the said Lands, in case the other Departments of Government, who were the proper Judges of the Policy of the Grant applied for, should approve of such Grant—

That the Committee of Council for Plantation Affairs to whom the Policy of the Grant was referred, reported to the King of Great Britain in Council, that it was their Opinion, that in case his Majesty should be pleased to make a Grant of any Part of the Lands in question, the Petitioners were best entitled to it in regard they were the first, who had made Proposals for the Purchase from Government of Lands in America, and had agreed to take the whole Expence of the Civil Government on themselves; and the Committee at the same time that they recommend a compliance with the Prayer of the Petitioners, advised that Orders should be sent to the Superintendant of Indian Affairs to apprize the Tribes of the Six Nations and their Confederates of the intended Settlement; and that the Commissioners for Trade and Plantations should be directed to prepare a proper Clause to be inserted in the Grant, saving and reserving to the respective Occupiers, all prior Claims to Lands within the Limits of the said Grant, whether derived from equitable or legal Titles: And the said Committee likewise reported it as their Opinion, that to the end the several Persons actually settled, or that might thereafter settle, might be more properly and quietly Governed, the said Settlement and District should be erected into a separate Government—

That on the 14th day of August 1772 his Britannic Majesty, taking the said Report of the Committee of Council into

Consideration

Consideration; approved thereof, and Ordered that the Commissioners for Trade and Plantations should Consider and Report to his Majesty in Council the Terms proper to be inserted in the said Grant; And that they should prepare a proper Clause or Clauses to be inserted thereon for saving and reserving to the respective Occupiers all prior Claims to Lands within the limits of the said intended Grant, whether derived under equitable or legal titles; And also further ordered, that the said Commissioners for Trade and Plantations should prepare and lay before him in Council a Plan for establishing a separate Government upon the said Tract in such Form and Manner and under such Restrictions and Regulations as they should judge proper and expedient; together with an estimate of the Expence, and the ways and means by which the same should be defrayed by the Petitioners.

That by a further Order of his Britannic Majesty in Council, made on the same day, the Earl of Dartmouth then one of the Secretaries of State, sent Directions to the Superintendant of Indian Affairs, to apprize the Chiefs of the Six Nations and their Confederates of the Intention to form a Settlement upon the Lands purchased of them in 1768.

That on the 6th of April 1773 the Chiefs of the Western Nations, assembled in Council, returned an answer to the Superintendant, wherein they observed, that it would give them the highest satisfaction to take the Person who should be appointed to govern their Brethren there, by the Hand, and to afford him all the assistance on their parts, that they were able to give, in renewing and strengthening the Chain of Friendship, and promoting the Peace and Tranquility of that part of the Country.

That the Commissioners for Trade and Plantations in pursuance and Execution of the foregoing Orders made Report to the King in Council, That the Lands comprehended within the Boundaries therein described should be Separated from the Colony of Virginia, and be erected by Letters Patent under the Great Seal of Great Britain into a distinct Colony under the Name of Vandalia, and that the Form and Constitution of Government for the said Colony should be such as in and by the said Report was mentioned and expressed.

That the foregoing Report was referred to the Committee of Council for Plantation Affairs, who, on the 28th day of October 1773 Ordered thereupon, that the Attorney & Solicitor General should prepare

and

and lay before them the Draught of a proper Instrument to be passed under the great Seal of Great Britain containing a Grant to the Honorable Thomas Walpole, Samuel Wharton, Benjamin Franklin and John Sargent Esquires and their Heirs and Assigns of the Lands prayed for by their Memorial they being the Persons who in behalf of themselves and their Associates contracted for the said Lands with the Commissioners of the Treasury) inserting in the said Draught the Conditions and Reservations proposed in the before mentioned Report of the Commissioners for Trade and Plantations -

That the necessary Expences which the Petitioners incurred and paid during the Prosecution of their Business through the several Departments of Government for a long series of Time amounted to upwards of Twenty Thousand Pounds Sterling

That in the month of August 1775 the said Thomas Walpole and his Associates represented by Memorial to the King of Great Britain that they always had been and were then ready to comply with their Agreement on their Parts by paying the Consideration Money, and performing the other Terms and Conditions on their Parts as contained in the Orders of the Committee of Council and the before mentioned Report of the Commissioners for Trade and Plantations And prayed, that the Establishment of the new Government might be no longer delayed -

That in this Situation Things remained till the Declaration of Independance by the United States of America; upon which auspicious Event your Memorialist apprehends and is advised, that all the Rights and all the Obligations of the Crown of Great Britain respecting the Lands and Government herein before mentioned devolve upon the United States and are to be claimed, received and discharged by the United States in Congress assembled -

That the said Thomas Walpole, Samuel Wharton, Benjamin Franklin and John Sargent by an Instrument under their Hands and Seals bearing date the eleventh day of April in the year of our Lord 1775, constituted your Memorialist their true and lawfull Attorney to manage and superintend all their and their Associates

Interest

Interest and Estate in the before mentioned Lands.



That many of those in whose behalf your Memorialist now appears have remarkably distinguished themselves by their exertions in favor of the American Cause both on this and the other side of the Atlantick.

That your Petitioner in behalf of himself, his Constituents and Associates hereby declares his Readiness and Willingness to pay to the United States of America the Sum of Ten Thousand four hundred and sixty pounds seven Shillings and three pence Sterling - the Sum that they agreed with the Commissioners of the Treasury to pay to the Crown of Great Britain for the Grant of the aforementioned Lands; and to perform all and every other Part of the Agreements and Stipulations entered into and made with the different Departments under the Government of Great Britain, properly authorised and appointed to enter into and make them -

That your Memorialist can have no doubt but that the Agreements, Contracts and Stipulations made and entered into by and under the authority of the Crown of Great Britain on the part of your Memorialist his Constituents and Associates will be fulfilled and performed to them by the United States of America in Congress assembled

That your Memorialist is sensible that several Doubts and Difficulties may probably arise in carrying the aforesaid Agreements, Contracts and Stipulations into Execution; particularly - concerning the Plan of Government, that would be most conducive to the general Interest of the Confederation, and to the Interests and Dispositions of those, who reside on the Lands proposed to be comprehended therein; and concerning the objections that may be made by the Common-wealth of Virginia against the Establishment of the stipulated Grant and Government. But he flatters himself that all those Doubts and Difficulties will be easily resolved and surmounted by the Justice, the Wisdom and the Authority of this

Honorable

Honorable House, to whose Superintendance and Management the very extensive Rights and Interests of the United States are committed: He knows that the State of Virginia ought to be heard; and that the Inhabitants interested in this Country and its Government ought to be consulted.

86

Your Memorialist therefore Prays this Honorable House to take this his Memorial into their Speedy Consideration for the State of Virginia hath ordered a Sale of the Lands in Question to commence in October next) and to give him an opportunity of being heard upon the subject of it before this House, or a Committee thereof by himself or his Counsel.

And Your Memorialist as in duty bound, shall Pray &c.

Philad.a September 11th 1789

William Irvine

85

Petition of William Trent
and his Associates to Congress

1779 Read Sept 16. 1779

To the Hon[illegible] the Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled.

The Memorial of William Trent of the State of New Jersey and Samuel Wharton and Bernard Gratz of the City of Philadelphia Attorneys of George Croghan Esquire of the County of Philadelphia, respectively Sheweth.

That on the second Day of August in the Year 1769 the Six United Nations of Indians by their Sachems and Chiefs fully representing them did at a full Council consisting of the said Deputies and of the Chiefs and Warriors of the Delaware and Shawnese Tribes of Indians held at Logg's Town upon the River Ohio for valuable Considerations paid unto the said Six Nations, grant, sell and convey unto the said George Croghan his Heirs and Assigns three several Tracts and Parcels of Land situate lying and being upon the said River Ohio &c. which said Tracts the said George Croghan possessed and largely improved.

That at a Congress at Fort Stanwix in the Year 1768 held by Sir William Johnson Baronet the King of Great Britain's Superintendant of Indian Affairs for the Northern Department of North America and by the Governor and Chief Justice of New Jersey, Thomas Walker Esquire Commissioner for Virginia and Richard Peters and James Hilpheman Esquires Commissioners for Pennsylvania with the said Six United Nations of Indians &c. They the said Indians by their Deed bearing Date the fourth Day of November 1768 did for the Consideration therein expressed grant bargain sell alien release, confirm, ratify and fully confirm unto the said George Croghan his Heirs and Assigns forever, all the said three described & mentioned Tracts or Parcells of Land, and among other Things, in and by their Deed did declare and provide as follows, as upon Reference being had to a Copy of the said Deed hereunto annexed will more fully and at large appear. Provided always Nevertheless and it is the true Intent and meaning of these Presents And the said Abraham Lavengrist Degnawenta

&c.

Chenaugetia, Tagaaia and Gaustrax do hereby covenant and
agree to and with his said Majesty and his Heirs and Successors to
and for the only use benefit and behoof of the said George Croghan his Heirs
and Assigns that if any or all of the said several Tracts of Land or any Part
thereof shall hereafter be found to be within the Bounds or Limits of a certain
Grant bearing Date the fourth Day of March in the Year of our Lord one Thousan
six Hundred and Eighty one made by Charles the second King of Great Britain &c
to William Penn Esquire for the Tract of Country called and known by the Name of Penn=
sylvania that then and in such Case his said Majesty his Heirs and Successors to
and for the only use benefit and behoof of the said George Croghan his Heirs and Assigns
shall be permitted and shall have and enjoy full Right Power and Authority to survey
and locate the said several Quantities of One Hundred Thousand Sixty Thousand and
forty Thousand Acres of Land, be the same more or less, as contained within the
Limits and Bounds of the said three several and respective Tracts or Parcels of
Land mentioned and described as aforesaid in such Quantities and on such Parts
and Places of and in and within the Cession or Grant of Land or Territory which
shall be ceded or granted at the Conference aforesaid to the said King of Great Britain
by the Chiefs or Sachems of the said Six United Nations any Thing therein contained
to the Contrary thereof in any Wise Notwithstanding."

That the said Deed was procured under the immediate Superintendance of the Kings
Agents and the above mentioned Crown Commissioners and executed in the Presence of,
and witnessed by the said Governor and Chief Justice of New Jersey, Mr Walker
Commissioner for Virginia, and the Commissioners for Pennsylvania, as will also appear
on and by a Copy of the said Deed hereunto annexed.

That the said Six Nations, besides the above Services mentioned in the said
Deed, made it an express Condition in the Journals of the said Treaty held at
Fort Stanwix and in their Grant to the said King that in Case the Lands which
the said George Croghan got a Deed long ago for from them should be taken into the
Province of Pennsylvania that on such [illegible] they should get [illegible]
somewhere else, which upon Reference to the said Treaty and Grant will more
fully

fully and at large appear.

That as the State of Virginia claimed all the Country Westward of the Allegany Mountains, Bernard Gratz one of your Memorialists and three Others (Purchasers from and under the Title of the said George Croghan for Parts and Parcels of the said three described Tracts of Land) applied to the House of Delegates of the State of Virginia and prayed that the same might be confirmed, But the said House of Delegates rejected their said Memorial, notwithstanding a like Sale of Lands, on precisely the same Predicaments from the said George Croghan to Alexander Ross and William Dunbar and from the said Alexander Ross to Lieutenant Colonel Charles Simms was approved and confirmed, in the same Session by Act of General Assembly of that State, And although the Legislature thereof had on the Year 1779 passed an Act declaring "that all Sales and Deeds which have been or shall be made by any Indian or Indians he shall be and the same are hereby declared utterly void and of no Effect, yet the said House of Delegates, after rejecting the said Memorial did resolve (in manifest Contradiction of the said Act of Assembly) that if the said Bernard Gratz he have any legal or equitable Claim to the Lands conveyed to him by George Croghan such Claim should be investigated and determined in a Court of Law or Equity"

That if the Settlement of the Division Line between Virginia and Pennsylvania should be approved and confirmed by your Honorable House Your Memorialists pray that the said George Croghan his Heirs and Assigns may have Authority agreable to the Terms and Conditions of the Treaty and Grant aforesaid "to survey and locate the said several Quantities of One Hundred Thousand, Sixty Thousand and forty Thousand Acres of Land be the same more or less as contained within the Limits & Bounds of the said three several and respective Tracts or Parcels of Land mentioned & described in the said Deed hereunto annexed in such Quantities & in such Parts and Places of and within the Cession or Grant of Land or Territory granted at the Treaty at Fort Stanwix to the King of Great Britain by the Chiefs or Sachems of the said Six United Nations" And your Memorialists as in Duty bound shall pray.

Sam. Wharton

Bernard Gratz

William Trent

Philadelphia
May 21 1781

To all People to whom these presents shall come Greeting

Know Ye That we Abraham a Mohawk Chief Sennghose an Oneida Chief
Tgnarisera a Tuscarora Chief Chenaughcata an Onandago Chief Tagaaca a Cayuga
Chief and Gaustrax a Seneca Chief Chiefs and Sachems of the Six united Nations
being and effectually representing all the Tribes of the said Six united Nations
and Greeting Whereas Tohonerisa Scarayadia Coswentanicca Chiefs
or Sachems of the said six united Nations did by their Deed duely executed bearing
date the second day of August in the Year of our Lord One thousand seven hundred and
forty nine for and in consideration of the following Goods and Merchandize being
payed and delivered to them at a full Council of the said six united Nations Delawares
and Shawanese held at the Log Town on the river Ohio on the said second day of
August One thousand seven hundred & forty nine That is to say two hundred and
fifty Stroudes four hundred Duffield Blankets four hundred and sixty pair half
Thicks Stockings two hundred Shirts twenty pieces of Callicoe twenty pieces of Callimanco
twenty pieces of Embossed Serge fifty pounds of Vermillion fifty Grose of Gartering
fifty pieces of Ribbon fifty dozen of knives five hundred pounds of Gun powder
six hundred of Barr Lead three thousand Gun Flints fifty pounds of brass kettles
four pounds of thread one thousand Needles ten dozen of Jews harps twenty dozens
Tobacco Tongs & one hundred pounds of Tobacco Grant Bargain and Sell
unto George Croghan of the Province of Pensylvania Esquire in fee a certain tract
or parcell of Land situate lying and being on the Southerly side of the river Moon=
gehela beginning at the Mouth of a run nearly opposite to Turtle Creek and then
down the said river Monongahela to its Junction with the river Ohio computed to
be ten Miles then running down the Eastern bank and sides of and unto the said
river Ohio to where Racoon Creek empties itself into the said River thence up the
said Creek ten Miles and from thence on a strait or direct line to the place of begin=
ning on the aforesaid river Monongehela containing by estimation one hundred
thousand Acres of Land be the same more or less And Whereas the said
Tohonerisa Scarayadia and Coswentanicca Chiefs or Sachems as aforesaid for
the consideration herein after mentioned to them in full Council as aforesaid

paid and delivered That is to say One hundred and forty Strouds two hund.
and forty Duffield Blankets Two hundred and seventy paer of half thick
Stockings one hundred and twenty Shirts twelve pieces of Calliese twelve
pieces of Callimancoe twelve pieces of Embossed Serge thirty pounds of Vermi.
thirty grose of Gartering thirty pieces of Ribbon thirty dozen of knives th
hundred pounds of Gun powder Six hundred of Bar lead one thousand Gun
flints thirty pounds of brass Kettles four pounds of thread five hundre.
Needles Six dozen of Iews Harps six dozen of Tobacco Tongs & fifty poun
of Tobacco did by one other Deed bearing date the same Day and year last
aforesaid Grant Bargain and Sell unto the said George Croghan
in fee one other tract or parcell of Land situate lying and being on the ri
Yoshiogeni including the Indian Village called the Sewickly old Town o.
same tract or parcell of Land containing fifteen Miles in length on the sa
river and ten Miles in breadth and including the Lands on both sides of
said river Yoshiogeni which fifteen Miles in length and ten Miles in brea
by the said George Croghan has liberty to locate either up or down the said
river Yoshiogeni but nevertheless in such manner so as to include and lea
all the said Indian Village and land called the Sewickly old Town which sa
Tract or parcell of Land contain by estimation sixty thousand Acres, be the same
more or less And Whereas the said Tohoneriosa Scaroyadia and Cow
tanica did by one other Deed bearing Date the day and year last aforesa
for the consideration herein mentioned to them in full Council paid and deliv
as aforesaid That is to say for ninety six Strouds one hundred and Sixty
Duffield Blankets One hundred and eighty four paer of half thick Stockings
Eighty Shirts eight pieces of Calliese eight pieces of embossed Serge Twenty fou
of Vermillion twenty grose of Gartering Twenty pieces of Ribbon twenty do
of Knives Two hundred pound of Gun powder four hundred of Barr Lea
One thousand Gun Flints twenty pounds of brass Kettles two pounds of thi
five hundred Needles four dozen of Iews Harps four dozen of Tobacco Tongs

fifty pounds of Tobacco Grant, Bargain and Sell unto the said George Croghen in Fee one thir Tract or parcell of Land situate lying being and beginning on the east side of the river Ohio to the northward of an old Indian Villiage called Shanopinstown at the mouth of a run called the two mile run then up the said two mile run to where it interlocks with the heads of the two mile spring which empties into the river Monongehela then down the said two mile spring to the several courses thereof unto the said river Monongehela then up the said river Monongehela to where Turtle Creek empties itself into the said river then up the said Turtle Creek to the first forks thereof then up the North or Northerly branch of the said Creek to the head of the same Thence a North or Northerly course untill it strikes Plumb Creek, then down the said Plumb Creek until it empties itself into the river Ohio and then down the said river Ohio to the place of beginning where as aforesaid the two mile run discharges itself into the said river Ohio containing by estimation Forty thousand Acres be the same more or less which said several grants bargains and Sales were duely made and executed by the same last mentioned Chiefs or Sachems in pursuance of certain powers and Authorities delegated to and vested in them for the purposes aforesaid by the Chiefs or Sachems of the Onondaga Council in full Council assembled And Whereas the said first mentioned Chiefs or Sachems of the said six united Nations parties to these presents are not only truly sensible and convinced that the said George Croghan hath faithfully and justly paid and delivered unto Tohonerisa Scaroyadia and Oswenlanicca Chiefs or Sachems as aforesaid all and several the Goods and Merchandize herein particulary recited and mentioned but of

great Justice and Integrity of the said George Croghan used and
ised by him towards the six Nations and their allies in all h.
lic and private conduct and transactions wherein they have b.
ned Now Know Ye therefore that we the said Chiefs or
heirs of the said six united Nations in full council assembled as
Stanwix for and in consideration of the sum of five shilling
them in hand paid by the said George Croghan the receipt wh.
they do hereby acknowledge and for and in consideration of the
said Goods and Merchandize paid and delivered by him unto Tor.
x Scarroyadia and Coswentanicca chiefs as aforesaid Have
nted bargaind Sold aliend releasd confeffd ratifyd and fully
firmed And by these presents Do grant bargain Sell alien
se confeffe ratify and fully confirm unto his most sacred Majesty
e the third King of great Britain France and Ireland Defende
he faith and so forth his heirs and successors for the use benefit a.
oof of the said George Croghan his heirs and assigns all those th
e described or mentioned Tracts or parcells of Land granted or int
be granted by the said several recited Deeds as aforesaid and als.
d Mines Minerals Ores Trees Woods Underwoods Waters Water cours
s Commodities Advantages rights Libertys Priviledges hereditа-
ts and appurtenances whatsoever to the said several Tracts or
ts of Land belonging or in any wise appertaining and also th
rev and reversions remainder & remainders Rents Issues and profe

thereof and every part and parcell thereof and all the Estate right Title
Interest use property possession claim and demand of them the said Abraham
Sanughsor Sagnàriesera Chenaugheata Tagaaia Gaustrax Chiefs and
Sachems aforesaid and of all and every other person and persons whatsoever
for or belonging to the said Nations of into and out of the premises and
every part and parcell thereof To have and to hold the said several
Tracts or parcells of Land and all and singular the said granted or bargain
premises with the appurtenances unto his said Majesty his Heirs and
Successors to and for the only use benefit and behoof of the said George Croghan
his Heirs and assigns for ever And the said Abraham Senughsor Sagna-
riesera Chenaugheata Tagaaia and Gaustrax for themselves and for the six
united Nations and all and every other Nation and Nations Tributarys
and dependants on the said six united Nations and their and every of
their posterityes the said several tracts of Land and premises and every part
there of against them the said Abraham Senughsor Sagnariesera Chenaugheata
Tagaaia and Gaustrax and against the said six united Nations and their
Tributaries and dependants and all and every of their Posterityes unto the
said Majesty his heirs and successors to and for the only use benefit
and behoof of the said George Croghan his heirs and assigns shall and will
warrant and forever defend by these presents Provided Allways
Nevertheless And it is the true intent and meaning of these
presents And the said Abraham Senughsor Sagnariesera Chenaugh-
eta Tagaaia and Gaustrax do hereby covenant and agree to and with
his said Majesty and his heirs and successors to and for the only use

benefit and behoof of the said George Croghan his Heirs and Assigns that if any or all of the said several Tracts of Land or any part thereof shall hereafter be found to be within the bounds and limits of a certain grant bearing date the fourth day of March in the Year of our Lord one Thousand six hundred and eighty one made by Charles the second King Great Britain &c to William Penn Esquire for the Tract of Country called and known by the name of Pennsylvania that then and in such case his said Majesty his heirs and successors to and for the only use benefit and behoof of the said George Croghan his heirs and Assigns shall be permitted and shall have and enjoy full right power and authority to survey and Locate the said several quantities of One hundred thousand Six thousand and Forty thousand Acres of Land be the same more or less as contained within the Limits and bounds of the said three several and respective Tracts or parcells of Land mentioned and described as aforesaid in such Quantities and in such parts and places of and in and within the Cession or grant of Land or Territory which shall be Ceded and grant at the Conference aforesaid to the said King of Great Britain by the Chiefs or Sachems of the said six United Nations any thing herein contained to the contrary thereof in any wise notwithstanding In Witness Whereof we the said Chiefs and Sachems in behalf of ourselves respectively and in behalf of the whole Six united Nations aforesaid have hereunto set our hands and Seals in the presence of the persons subscribing as Witnesses hereunto at a Congress held at Fort Stanwix aforesaid this the fourth day of November in the Ninth Year of his Majesty's reign and in the year of our Lord One thousand

Seven hundred and Seaty Eight

Abraham or Tyohanesera a chief of — The Mark of his Station — The Steel — Seal — the Mohoks

William or Senneghoris a chief of the — His Mark of his Station — The Stone — Seal — Oneidas

Hendrick or Sagnarisera chief of the — The Mark of his Nation — The Cross — Seal — Tuscaroras

~~Brant or~~ Chonaugheata a chief of — The Mark of his Station — The Mountain — Seal — the Onondagas

Tagaaia a chief of the — The mark of his Nation — The Pipe — Seal — Cayugas

Gaustraa a chief of — The mark of his Nation — The high Hill — Seal — the Senecas

Sealed & Delivered in the presence of us —

The Word [Croghan] being first written on Razures Eleven times and the Words [And — or down — Tract] being first interlined

Sealed and delivered in the presence of us all the foregoing Interlineations Razures & Writing on Razures being first made

Wm Franklin Governor of New Jersey
Frs Smyth Chief Justice of New Jersey
Thomas Walker Commissioner for Virginia
Richard Peters
Isaac Pilgrim
of the Council of Pennsylvania

Petition of William
read and order —
Recd Sept 28. 1781
Reserved due con
the petition to be
on investigation

John Skinner Capt in the 70th Regt
Joseph Chew of Connecticut
John Wethered of New York
John Walker of Virginia

Thomas Walker of Virginia
John Butler Interpreter for the Indians

Seal

Recorded in the Office of Deeds for the City and County of Philadelphia in Book F Vol 5 page 239 &c.
Certified under my hand & Seal of Office aforesd this 12th Jan. 1769.

Will Parr Recr

At a Court Continued and held for Augusta County at Pittsburg Septemb. the 23. 1775.

This Deed of Bargain and Sale from the Sachems of the Six united Nations of Indians to George Croghan Esq. was proved by Thomas Walker and John Walker Gentlemen two of the Witnesses thereto and ordered to be Certified

At a Court held for Augusta County by Authority of the Commonwealth of Virginia at Staunton August 19. 1777.

This Deed of Bargain & Sale from the Sachems of the Six united Nations of Indians to Geo. Croghan Esquire being formerly proved by the Oaths of Thomas and John Walker Gent. two of the Witnesses thereto subscribed at a Court held at Pittsburg was this day further proved by the Oath of Thomas Walker Gent. another of the Witnesses thereto subscribed and Ordered to be Recorded

Test

John Madison Clk Curia

To the Honorable the United States in Congress assembled.

The Memorial of William Trent of the State of New Jersey in behalf of Himself and the other Proprietors of a Tract of Land called Indiana respectfully sheweth.

That by repeated and most earnest Representations laid before Congress, a Committee of your honorable Body was appointed to hear what your Memorialists had to alledge against the Legislature of the State of Virginia, which set up Pretensions to the Lands in Question, and passed a Law to vacate the Grants to your Memorialists, notwithstanding the same had been recognized by the Crown of Great-Britain anterior to the present Revolution. That your Memorialists attended the said honorable Committee for several Days, and after a full and patient Hearing had upon the Title of your Memorialists to the Tract aforesaid, and every Circumstance relative to the same, the said Committee unanimously made a Report (as will appear among the Files of Congress, with other Papers, connected with the Premises) and therein observed, "That the Purchases of Colonel "Croghan and the Indiana Company were bona fide made for a "valuable Consideration according to the Usage and Custom of "purchasing Lands from the Indians, with the Knowledge, Consent "and Approbation of the Crown of Great-Britain, and the then "Governments of New-York and Virginia".

Your Memorialists afterwards humbly suggested in July last, among a Variety of other Grievances, which they were exposed to, "That Justice so long delayed would in its Consequences "be as injurious to them as Justice denied"; and especially, as from the

the great Numbers of Families which have removed, and which are now removing in greater Numbers from the Sea Coast Counties to settle on Lands Westward of the Allegany Mountains, since the Preliminaries of a General Peace have been published;— Your Memorialists are very apprehensive from certain Information which they have received, that Disputes of an alarming Nature to the Tranquility of the United States, and to the Property of your Memorialists will soon take Place, if the honorable Congress should any longer delay to do them Justice, which as Citizens of several States they have an undoubted Right to claim, and insist upon.

Your Memorialists, among whom are Numbers of aged and distressed Widows and helpless Orphans, (after the Six Nations of Indians and the British King had exhibited in this Case an illustrious Example of Justice) are contending with many Distresses, consequent of the very long Indecision of Congress. There may have been political Considerations, during the War, which may have influenced the Honorable Congress to protract their solemn Engagement "of being always careful to provide, "that the Justice due to these States, does not interfere with "the Justice which may be due to Individuals"; — But as the Event of War has ceased, your Memorialists most respectfully hope and confide, That true Policy, which is always founded in National Justice, will dictate an immediate Order for directing a Mode, by which a final Decision may be had in the Premises, And your

Memorialists

Memorialists as in Duty bound shall ever pray &c

In behalf of Himself and Associates

Philadelphia Apr. 17. 1783 William Smith

Memorial of Wm. Trent
in behalf of himself & others,
Proprietors of a Tract of land
called Indiana.

April 17, 1703

Read April 24.

B

Copy of Instructions
from Sir John Johnson Superint.
Gen.l & Inspector Gen.l of Ind.n Affairs
to Mr. Sam.l Thompson
Storekeeper for the Six Nation
Dep.t at Niagara

Sir

Niagara 28 April 1783

I am honored with your Excellency's Letter of the Eleventh March, wherein you are pleased to mention "that you do not perfectly understand by the last accounts "from from Detroit, what is the Matter in which the Seven "Indians were killed, and a Trader plundered, is a "fresh Outrage of the Enemy, or the former one yet standing "Stone Village as represented by the Indians there."

I have the honor to inform your Excellency it is to be the former and no fresh Outrage, the killing of the Seven Indians being all the mischief done in the affair. And at a Council of the Chiefs of the Six Nations after the arrival of Major Depeyster I desired Captain Caldwell to get Lieut. Colonel Butler to explain the matter fully explained to the Chiefs, with which they were satisfied.

At a General Council of the six Nations held before them your Excellency's Speech & sentiments in their favour, with which they were highly pleased, and I have the honor to transmit you here with their Answer and I have not a doubt but they will behave well, and obey the wise and proper Directions laid down by your Excellency for their future Conduct; they have unanimously declared they would. I am however sorry to inform you, that four Delaware Indians, that went out a hunting above three Months ago, came back lately, and brought a man and a boys Scalps, and a young Lad of seventeen Prisoners they had been as far as fort Pitt to the Southward, and at about forty miles to the Eastward of it, at a place called Wannahs Town or near it. I immediatly sent for Lieut. Colonel Butler, and with Lieut Colonel Dundass, and some other Officers I had these four young Warriors called to a Conference, and reproved them improper Conduct, ordered the Scalps out of sight immediatly, represented to them the great mischief they were doing, and how Contrary

General Haldimand &c

to their own Interest they were acting, and told them that I had forbid the Superintendants giving them any thing, they seemed to show great contrition for what they had done. In two days after we had the great Council of the Six nations, and I got Captain Brant to Converse fully into the impropriety of their foolish conduct, and represented to them that if they did not refrain from such proceedings, and follow the good advice your Excellency had given them, you could not pretend to protect them, besides that they would provoke the Enemy to such a degree, that they would be obliged in self defence to invade the Indian Country with a large Force; He seemed to Acquiesce in all I had said, and Captain Brant explained fully and I firmly believe they will act accordingly —

It gives me Concern also to inform your Excellency that a most horrid Murder was committed here on the Night of the 15th Instant on a poor delaware Indian, Capt Brant tells me he was a very good man and a very inoffensive man. He was murdered between Eleven & Twelve O'Clock at night when he was lying dead Drunk near Mr. Deare's House, supposed to be done by One Johnathan Bray, he was a long time prisoner with the Indians, and never had been ill used by them they delivered him up last November to Mr. Deare with whom he has lived ever since, from all the Circumstance I in my Consience believe him Guilty, and your Excellency will see by the depositions of the different Witness that there are strong Circumstantial Evidence the Examination of the Evidences upon Oath and the proceedings of the Coroners Inquest I have the honor here with to transmit, the man is in the Black hole and I intended the first good Opportunity to send him in Irons to Montreal together with his supposed

Accomplice

Accomplice, and I am requested by Capt. Brant to
inform your Excellency that he hopes if the man is found
Guilty that you will send him up here, as nothing else
will Convince the Indians that they will have redress
that they will find a hangman, the Murdered Indian
is Brother to Delaware Aroas the Interpreter and
a real good man. many indians for these seven
years past have been dying Drunk about this
place without ever coming to any harm, nor is there
the Shadow of any Suspicion upon any other person
but Jonathan Pray—

I have the honor to be respectfully
Your Excellencys—
Most Obedient &
most humble Servant
Allan Maclane

From A 1783.

B. Genl. Maclean

20th April. R. 7th May.

inclosing Answers to
a Speech & Inquest
on the Body of an Indian.

tions may be immediately laid before the legislature of such State, and that if the legislature should not be sitting when the said resolutions shall be received by the Executive, that they may be called to sit, as soon as possible, in order that they may take the measures necessary for complying with the requisitions of Congress within the time limited for that purpose.[1]

The committee of the week [Mr. Benjamin Hawkins, Mr. John Collins, and Mr. Gunning Bedford] report,

That the letter from Darius Stoddard with its enclosures be referred to the Superintendant of finance to report thereon.

That the petition of Lieutenant Ignace Penet be read in Congress.[2]

## MONDAY, APRIL 21, 1783

On a report from the agent of marine, to whom was referred a memorial of John Thompson:

*Resolved*, That all accounts of persons in the marine department for pay, depreciation or arrearages, be adjusted by the commissioner for settling the accounts of the marine department.[3]

A letter, of this day, from the Superintendant of finance, was read, enclosing a copy of a letter of the 20, from the Minister of France, requesting the loan of the ship *Duc de Lauzun*, for the purpose of carrying home the French troops now in this country; whereupon,

*Ordered*, That the said letters be referred back to the Superintendant of finance, and that he take order for complying with the request of the honorable the Minister of France.

[1] This motion, undated, in the writing of John Rutledge, is in the *Papers of the Continental Congress*, No. 36, II, folio 23.

[2] This report, in the writing of Benjamin Hawkins, is in the *Papers of the Continental Congress*, No. 32, folio 469. The indorsement states that it was passed on this day. The letter of Darius Stoddard, dated April 17, asking for a settlement, is in No. 78, XXI, folio 301. According to the record in Committee Book No. 186, it was referred to the Superintendent of Finance on this day, and the memorial of Ignace Penet to the Secretary at War.

On this day, as the indorsement indicates, a memorial, dated Philadelphia, April 18, of John Blake, Joseph Bindon, John Dyer Mercier and Benjamin Thompson, Merchants and Traders formerly of Quebec, was referred to Mr. [Samuel] Osgood, Mr. [Abraham] Clark, and Mr. [James] Madison. It is in No. 41, II, folio 134.

[3] This report is in the *Papers of the Continental Congress*, No. 137, II, folio 335.

On the report of a committee, consisting of Mr. [Theodorick] Bland, Mr. [Thomas] Fitzsimmons and Mr. [Stephen] Higginson, to whom was referred a letter of the 11, from the Superintendant of finance:

The Committee to whom was referred the letter from the Supt[d] of Finance of the day of ~~August~~ respecting the sale of the ship *Duke D' Lauzun* conceived it to be the wish of Congress that they should inquire into the authority as well as the reasons which induced the Supt[d] of Finance to purchase and employ the said Ship. They have made those inquiries accordingly and find that on the 3[d] day of ~~August~~ July, 1781, Congress resolved,

"That the Supt[d] of Finance be impowered to pursue such measures as he may think proper for exporting and importing goods, money and other articles at the risque and for the account of the United States, at such times and in such manner as he shall deem necessary and useful to the public service."

Which resolution in their opinion fully warranted the purchase and employment of the aforesaid ship.

That upon enquiring into the circumstances which induced the purchase the committee had the fullest information and are perfectly satisfied that the reasons for purchasing the said ship were substantial ones, and her employment intended for the service and interest of the United States; upon this point the committee submit the copies of the several letters furnished them from the office of Finance and recommend,

*Resolved*, That the Superintendant of finance take order for the sale of the ship *Duc de Lauzun*, after the service for which she is lent to the Minister of France is performed.[1]

On the request of Colonel M. Ogden, of the New Jersey line, accompanied with the approbation of the Commander in Chief:

*Resolved*, That Colonel M. Ogden, of the New Jersey line, have leave to go to Europe.[2]

[1] This report, in the writing of Thomas FitzSimons, is in the *Papers of the Continental Congress*, No. 26, folio 441. According to the indorsement, it was delivered and read April 18. Morris's letter is in folio 443.

[2] Ogden's letter, dated April 16, is in the *Papers of the Continental Congress*, No. 78. XVII, folio 353. Washington's letter, dated April 7, is on folio 349.

Report of a Committee [Mr. Alexander Hamilton, Mr. James Madison, Mr. Samuel Osgood, Mr. Oliver Ellsworth, Mr. James Wilson] to whom was committed the letter from His Excell^y^ the President of the State of Pennsylvania respecting a peace with the Indians

Whereas, by the 9th article of the confederation the United States in Congress assembled are vested with the sole and exclusive right and power among other things "of regulating the trade and managing all affairs with the Indians not members of any of the States"—

*Resolved*, That the general superintendence of Indian affairs under Congress be annexed to the department of war.

That there be ~~an immediate~~ a suspension of offensive hostilities against the Indian nations, and that immediate measures be taken to communicate the same to the several tribes preparatory to a ~~formal~~ final pacification.

That there be four ~~Commissioners~~ Agents appointed for the transaction of affairs with the Indians in the different districts—one for the eastern district comprehending all the tribes under the general denomination of the Penobscot Indians; one for the northern district, comprehending the six nations, and the nations depending on them; one for the western district, comprehending all the tribes under the general denomination of the western Indians; one for the southern district, comprehending all the southern nations; with an allowance not exceeding dollars per annum to each ~~Commissioner~~ Agent.

That ~~immediate~~ measures be taken to purchase articles proper for presents to the Indians to the amount of to be distributed when their deputies shall assemble for the purpose of a treaty of peace.

That in order to a ~~more~~ speedy pacification, till the Commissioners aforesaid can be appointed, a Special Committee be appointed, instructed to endeavour to engage one or more respectable inhabitants for each district acquainted with Indian affairs to undertake the negotiation of ~~a treaty of~~ an immediate peace and that the said Committee digest such further ~~details~~ measures as it will be proper for Congress to take with reference thereto.[1]

[1] This report, in the writing of Alexander Hamilton, is in the *Papers of the Continental Congress*, No. 30, folio 173. The indorsement shows that it was read on this day, Monday, April 28, assigned for its consideration, and on August 12, "referred to the committee on peace arrangements, Mr. Holten." According to the record in Committee Books No. 186 and No. 191, the report was committed, on August 12, to Mr. [James] Duane, Mr. [Ralph] Izard and Mr. [Daniel] Carroll, who reported

TUESDAY, APRIL 22, 1783

On the report of a committee, consisting of Mr. [Daniel] Carroll, Mr. [Hugh] Williamson and Mr. [Samuel] Holten,, to whom was referred a letter of 15, from Thomas Edison:

The committee to whom was referred the letter of Tho. Edison, having considered the several acts of Congress respecting him, are of opinion

*Resolved*, That the Superintendant of finance take order for the discharge of the balance, if any, of the five hundred dollars ordered to Thomas Edison on the 3d of September, 1782, including what he has received since the 23 day of April, 1782.[1]

On the report of a committee, consisting of Mr. [Oliver] Ellsworth, Mr. [Hugh] Williamson and Mr. [Abraham] Clark, to whom was referred a letter of 22 June, 1781, from Dr. George Gilmer:

*Resolved*, That the account of Dr. G. Gilmer for pay and rations, be settled on the same principles as the accounts of other hospital surgeons of the same rank, according to the time he shall appear to have been employed in the public service; and that the purveyor general return to Dr. George Gilmer a quantity of medicine equal to what he expended out of his private stores, for the use of the continental hospital under his care.[2]

September 19. The Pennsylvania letter, dated April 3, is in No. 69, II, folio 435, and was read and referred April 4.

On this day, as the indorsement indicates, was read a letter from the Superintendent of Finance, stating that he has prospect of getting a person to be Commissioner for the accounts. It is in No. 137, II, folio 339.

Also a letter of April 18 from General Washington. It is in No. 152, XI, folio 219. It was referred to Mr. [Samuel] Osgood, Mr. [Theodorick] Bland, Mr. [Alexander] Hamilton, Mr. [James] Madison, and Mr. [Richard] Peters, and is printed in the *Writings of Washington* (Ford) X, 225.

[1] This report, in the writing of Daniel Carroll, is in the *Papers of the Continental Congress*, No. 19, II, folio 207. According to the indorsement, it was read in Congress April 18. Edison's letter is in No. 78, VIII, folio 405.

[2] This report, in the writing of Hugh Williamson, is in the *Papers of the Continental Congress*, No. 19, II, folio 417. According to the indorsement, it was delivered April 17.

Sir—

Niagara 22d April 83

Yesterday afternoon an Express arrived here from Oswego, which brought me the two inclosed letters from Major Ross, which I have the honor to transmit to your Excellency, together with a Copy of my Letter to Majr Ross, for your Excellency's perusal, hoping the sentiments I there Express will meet with your Excellency's approbation Circumstanced as I am, I must be very cautious & vigilant least I might make a false movement, that the Enemy could take advantage of - besides my Numbers will not admit of many detachments.

We have been very Unfortunate in the want of Easterly Winds to bring the Troops from Carleton Island, tho I sent an Express boat to Oswego for that purpose on the 31 March, but I can scarce doubt, but the reinforcement from that quarter will be here in a few Days by this day or tomorrow in boats, and 20 Choosen Indians arrived here on the 16th but I am in a Surprize me much that no Vessel has yet arrived from Detroit, as the Wind has been fair from that quarter for ten days past — It is a cruel thing for Men of honor to have to do in such cases as the present, with such worthless and faithless People as the Rebells, for while I was busy in using every means in my Power to prevent the Indians from going to War, they were Preparing to cut the throats of the Indians. I was forced to send three solemn Embassys to Stop four large Parties last Week only however please God we shall be prepared for the worst

I have the honor to be most respectfully
Your Excellency's
Most Humble and
most obedient Servant
Allan Maclean

General Haldimand

From L. 1783.

B. Genl. Maclean

22d. April - R. 7th May.

Niagara Entd
Book C No. 1 fol. 73 —

Sir,

Yesterday about One O'Clock your letter were brought by Express, enclosing a Copy of Sir Guy Carleton's Letter to you — I am sorry to find that you have sent an Express to Major Harris, and intimated in it, that you only mention your having sent for Ammunition, &c. that I have, and no doubt but you are to look on Oswego, not to have any, as Major Harris is to forward immediately to you the two Companies of the 34th Regiment, and the ten Rangers, and as he had my positive Orders to send them to you by the Express you sent him on the 11th — they must be ready prepared; and as the Wind has been extreme fair, and continues so, that you have desired him to send the People immediately in Boats should the Wind continue contrary — As they have plenty of Boats at Carleton Island; and the misfortune is, that had we ever so many People here, as we have not Boats except we send them by Land (which is a tedious and difficult Route) I could not send you a man — the only Vessel I had here, the Mohawk, sailed from hence on the 14th. with Capt. Dame of the Rangers and 20 Indians for Oswego, and as the Wind has been fair ever since, it surprizes me much that She was not at Oswego before your Express came away, but they tell me they saw her in sight of Oswego. — Carleton Island is nearer to You than this Place by more than one half, and as Major Harris had my positive orders to send you two Companies of the 34th. and the Ten Rangers immediately, the number is about 80 men, and your present Garrison by the Returns are

Major Ross.

540.

340 and the 80 men you are to have, and those you have got from Carleton Island, before this can reach you, will make you above 600 Strong, which is within 160 men of our numbers, in which there are many old men unfit for active Service, and all the Sick and Rangers included; therefore I must be of opinion, that when the Troops from Carleton Island have joind you, which they must do in a few days — if you have directed Major Harris by your last Express to send them in Boats (a circumstance that I am convinced you have not neglected) You will be in a much more respectable situation than we are in here; You will also consider the very delicate situation I am in, with about 750 men, and that a false step (till we have some certainty of the Enemy's motions) might ruin the whole Indian Country — and this I intend to keep a sharp lookout towards Oswego, I must look to Major DePeyster, as well as the Six Nations: You will recollect that last Winter it was given out by the Enemy, that Colonel Willet's Expedition, was intended against the Frontier Posts of Lake Champlain, in place of which they came to You — no doubt General Carleton has sent you the Intelligence such as he got it, but it would be Folly in the extreme to dismantle this place of any number of Men, untill we can ascertain with some precision which Route the Enemy mean to take — You have a very good guess of the Carte du Paije, and I from Experience know a great deal of it; and I do know that the Rebels may with their 1200 men come from Newborough to Wioming in four or five days, nor can I ever believe they will send to attack Oswego with 1200 men and some Militia, Artillery and Ammunition they must have besides Provision,

and

and all that they cannot carry in Boats; and must have for that Carriage 120 Boats at least, and tho' this is the best season for their navigating the Mohawk River, as the Stream is rapid in many Places it will retard their progress, and I never can believe they mean to attempt you by either surprize or Escalade (I pray God they may) if they do, you will give a good account of them — Some therefore of opinion, that they have given out they mean to attack Oswego, but that their real intention is against the Indians — We must then, exclusive of the Parties we have out already, send four Parties more, they all go off to-day — One goes to Canadahare with orders, should the Enemy take their route by the Mohawk River, four of them to go to you, and the other two to come here — there are three good Indians and three Rangers — the other Parties go towards Tioga and Wioming, the others to the big Island, and towards Fort Pitt — We have sent to prepare all the Indians, but to get any number of them to go to Oswego, till they know that their Women and Children are not to be attacked, would be impossible, but depend upon it, we shall be ready — and should the Enemy move towards you, we shall endeavour with all our Indians and some of our ablest men, to hang upon their Rear; by the time they cross Lake Oneida: But if their views are against the Indian Country (and I believe it is) besides the 1200 Continentals from Newborough, there will be Detachments of equal Strength come by the Susquehanna and Fort Pitt: I leave yourself to judge what the consequence would be (and yet there is nothing more probable) ... if we should send you two Companies, and by that means be rendered unable to send any to

Major

Major DePeyster, or give the necessary assistance to the Six Nations, they will think we have deserted them, and they will immediately clap up a seperate Peace with the Rebels, and we could not blame them — these matters all considered, you will find that no men can be sent from hence, and as the order left this the 31st. March for two Companies of the 34th. from Carleton Island to join you, and keep all the 84th., I think you will have a respectable Garrison. I shall write to Major Harris to send the Ammunition, and replace all your Sick men; but I hope and trust it will be done in consequence of my former Orders before this reaches you — To conclude I shall be very Attentive to your situation and the motions of the Enemy, and give you every Relief that circumstances & situation can admit of — my Letter to Major Harris I send open for your perusal, seal and forward it as soon as possible.

I have the Honor to be with Regard
Sir,
Your most Obedient and
most humble Servant
Allan Maclean

Copy —

From very good information
I can assure you they had no batteaux
at Albany or Schenectady. there was a proposal Early
this Winter to build boats but it was dropt, a very sensible
intelligent man that passed the Winter within four miles
of Schenectady, left that on the 20th. March, and arrived
here the 10 Instant, and he assures me they had no
boats there, that could transport any Ammunition or Stores
to be necessary to Attack Oswego, and I believe you will
find the Indians are the object, but we must be prepared
for all Events —

Inquisition taken at Niagara the [illegible] Day of [illegible]
1793, by order of [illegible]
ing the Death of a Delaware
[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]

Inquiry on the
Murder of an
Indian at Niagara
transmitted by
B. Genl. Maclean
22d. April 1783.

A Journal of the Proceedings of Captain Elliott

April 23d 1793. We arrived at Sandusky immediately called the Chiefs together and Represented to them what had happened between us and Governor Simcoe and Colonel Butler and what we thought proper for them to do

Saying as the Governor spoke Verry strong we repeated what we had before said

Brothers,

We request of you to deliver our Answer to Captain Elliott & Colonel Butler that when we are ready for informing us with the News, also that we are happy to find they are going to send White men with us to Sandusky but to Roche de Bout as soon as the White men come we will be Ready to join them, we have already sent towards every other part of Frontiers, you'll also tell them since we have heard of Peace being nearly Concluded, we have been made in want of Ammunition &c and that we Request they will supply us with Ammunition, Arms, Tomhawks, Knives, & Vermilion &c so that we may be able to Defend ourselves in case the Rebels penetrate into our Country. The General & Col. Butler must be well assured that our Request is necessary & that we will not make unnecessary use of it, as we have in the Course of the War shard a common Fate with our Brothers the Englishmen we forever will do, and that by the last Accounts we have had we cannot find that the Rebels are making any preparations to come to Pensacola we imagine if any movement is made by the Rebels it will be to

Ky

Destroy our Villages, What we hope they will not find their men
Cowego untill they have it Confirmd that the Rebels intend to come
to that Coast and that it might always be believed which could not
done in case they came into our Country, as we have no places of
Defence to stop them and we will always be in Readiness to go to Cowego
its necessary and if the Rebels do invade our Country we hope the
General himself & Col. Butler will lead their People as our
Chiefs we intended to lead our Warriors but think the Commanding
Officers ought to be with their men to Direct & Encourage them
Our Reason for not answering this message with a Belt of Wampum
is, as its a Custom with us in warr times not to use Wampum and
are then all Warriors ——

He then said Brother Brant,

We hope whenever you hear that the Rebels are coming
to our Villages that youll immediately turn out your Warriors &
the Mohocks, Cuscaras &c to Order that they are immediately join
us ——

We are just now informed by a Scout, that they have
Discovered a Large Body of the Rebels on the West branch
of the Susquehanna Imagine that they are Directing their
Course towards our Villages ——

A little after they had gave this Answer to the message sent them,
Kayingaraghta & the First Carrier two principal Chiefs, came
to us and said they were much surprised to hear that Capt. Lotte

was Ordered to go to Kanaghqaderoda as the British Warriors were now all Acquainted with him that he had always been agreeable to them & had done whatever was required of him, that they would therefore be glad to know the Reason why he was sent for their Village—

Journal of the Proceedings of
Captains Powell & Barnet at Trinidad
the 23d April 1703 ——

Sir — Niagara the 24 April 1763

I had the honor of writing to his Excellency two days ago, by which time I expected to have received an Answer to the Memorial I sent him from the Indians of this Country, but as I have not yet received it, I am afraid that the Messenger I sent with it, has met with some accident, as he was to be back in a few days, and as I am very desirous of knowing what Success I may expect from my Application, I must beg leave to trouble your Excellency with another Letter, to request you will be pleased to inform me, whether you have received any Letter from Major Gladwin, or any other Person, relative to the Indians of this Country, and if you have, I must beg you will be pleased to favour me with a Copy of it, as I am very anxious to know what Success I may expect from my Application, and what Steps I am to take in consequence of it. I am sorry to inform your Excellency that the Indians of this Country are very much dissatisfied with the Behaviour of the Commanding Officer at Detroit, and I am afraid that unless he is removed from that Post, he will be murdered by them, as they have declared that they will not suffer him to remain there any longer

Exhibit
A.

Last Will & Testament of [illegible]

In the Name of God Amen I [illegible] of the [illegible] in the County of [illegible] and State of [illegible] being of sound and disposing mind memory and understanding do make and publish this my last Will and Testament in manner following that is to say First I give and bequeath my Soul to Almighty God and my Body to the Earth to be buried in a decent Christian like manner at the discretion of my Executor hereinafter named and as touching such worldly Estate as it hath pleased God to bless me with in this life I give devise and dispose of the same in the following manner and form to wit

Item I give and bequeath to my beloved Wife [illegible] during her natural life or widowhood all that part of my Plantation whereon I now live bounded as follows to wit [illegible] also one Negro man named [illegible] one Negro woman named [illegible] one Negro girl named [illegible] one Negro boy named [illegible] also my stock of Horses Cattle Sheep and Hogs of every description also my Household and Kitchen Furniture of every description also one Carriage and Harness also my Crop of Corn Fodder and Provisions now on hand to be used and disposed of by her as she may think proper

Item I give and bequeath to my Son [illegible] one Negro man named [illegible] one Negro woman named [illegible] one Negro boy named [illegible] one Negro girl named [illegible] also one Bay Horse named [illegible] also one Cow and Calf also one Sow and pigs also one Bed and Furniture also my Gold Watch to him and his heirs forever

me much that no Vessel has yet arrived from Detroit, as the Wind has been fair from that Quarter for ten days past — It is a cruel thing for men of honor to have to do in such Cases as the present, with such worthless and Cowardly People as the Rebels, for while I was busy in using every means in my Power to prevent the Indians from going to War, they were preparing to cut the Throats of the Indians. I was forced to send three Solemn Embassys to stop four large Parties last week only however please God we shall be prepared for the worst —

I have the Honor to be &c.

(Signed) Allan Maclean

Inclosures to the foregoing letter — Copy of Gen. Carleton's Letter dated New York the 16th of March 1783 —

Twelve hundred Continentals are preparing for an Expedition they will set out from their Army near Newburgh about the end of March & suspect against Oswego — be Vigilant and inform your friends.

(Signed) Guy Carleton

Copy of a Letter from Major Ross to Brig. Genl. Maclean dated Oswego 16th April

Sir

I last night Received a Letter from Gen. Carleton dated 16th March — About Twelve hundred Continentals were to set off from Newburgh, he judged against this place, I take the earliest opportunity to beg your promised assistance in as many men as you can send and the Indians, it is probable they will be joined with Militia they were to leave Newburgh in the end of March so that we may expect them every hour — No peace likely to be happy news I hoped

I have the Honor to be &c.

Signed John Ross

I have wrote to Major Harris for more Ammunition — shall beg you'll Order to that Effect, 20 Barrels of Powder — & Shot in proportion

Sir,

Niagara the 27th April 1783

Yesterday afternoon I received a Note from Major Ross, inclosing His Majesty's Proclamation announcing a General Cessation of all Hostilities with which I have the honour herewith to transmit to Your Excellency.

I wrote Major Ross that in Obeying the rules laid down in His Majesty's Proclamation I should do no more than follow the Instructions I had from your Excellency, when I was sent to take the Command of this district, In forbearing all Acts of Hostility, and should Certainly follow the same rule of Conduct, and that I did suppose I should hear of the Preliminarys

Preliminarys of a General Peace being Signed from your Excellency &c.ª, in the mean time no Hostile Act should be attempted.

I also mentioned to Major Ross, that the Complaint of Colonel Willet respecting Wioming was without foundation and Void of Truth; that no man from this District, had been at Wioming that a small Scout of Six men sent to reconoitre, had met a Canoe with two men in it, within 40 Miles of Wioming & brought them very safe to me, that Colonel Willet had forgot the Conduct of their Savages at the Standing Stone Village in the Country of the Shawanese on the 15th October last, and if he would judge of matters with Justice and Candor, that it was rather a matter of Surprise, how the Commander in Chief in Canada had been able to restrain the Indians, Considering the many reasons they had for Acts of Retaliation, And that it was not to be supposed; but we must keep out small Reconoitring Parties especially when we had to do with so very interprising a Military Genius as Colonel Willet; that he might depend upon it that I should comply with the very strict Orders I had from the Commander in Chief, in not committing any Act of Hostility whatever, which would fully Comply with His Majesty's Proclamation. ——

I have the Honor to be &c.ª

(Signed) Allan Maclean

Extract of a Letter from B.G. Maclean to Gen.l Haldimand dated at Niagara 2 May 1783 ——

First

"I am honored with your Excellency's letter of the 11th April, Ordering that the Kings Vessels on both Lakes for the first Trip should be employed in carrying Merchandize an indulgence they were greatly in want of, and your Excellency's Orders shall be punctually Obeyed. — Early last Week the Seneca arrived here, with the Cloathing of the 8th and 34th Regiments and 400 Barrels of Pork, But am sorry to inform your Excellency that 200 Barrels of the 400, were without a drop of Pickle, and that the other 200 Barrels are in such bad Condition they will not bear the transport to Detroit without reducing them to be in the same Perishable State with the 200, that are now without Pickle; Captain Bouchette tells me, that out of 1,100 Barrels of Pork at Carleton Island, he took 400 of the best, this report is confirmed to me, by the arrival of the Limnade Yesterday, with 76 Barrels of Pork, still in a worse Condition than the former Cargo, this is truly a most distressing & disagreeable Situation. I should not however be under any apprehension of loosing the greatest part of this Pork, were there Casks

here

Copy of a Letter from
Alex.r M.c Kee Esq.r to
Major De Peyster dated
Roche de Bout April
26.th 1783

Sir Niagara the 27 April 1783

Yesterday afternoon I received a Note from Major Ross, inclosing His Majesty's Proclamation announcing a General Cessation of all Hostilities, both which I have the honour herewith to transmit to your Excellency.

I wrote Major Ross that in Obeying the Rules laid down in his Majesty's Proclamation I should do no more, than follow the Instructions I had from your Excellency, when I was sent to take the Command of this district, In forbearing all acts of Hostility, and should Certainly follow the same rule of Conduct, and that I did suppose I should hear of the preliminaries of a General Peace being signed from your Excellency soon, in the mean time no Hostile Act should be attempted

I also mentioned to Major Ross, that the Complaint of Colonel Willet respecting Wioming was without foundation Bad void of Truth; that no man from this district, had been at Wioming that a small Scout of Six men sent to reconoitre, had meet a Canoe with two men in it, within 40 Miles of Wioming & brought them Safe to me; that Colonel Willet had forgot the Conduct of these Savages, at the Standing Stone Village in the Country of the Shawanese on the 18 October last, and if he would judge of Matters with fairness & candor, that it was rather a Matter of Surprise, how the Commander in Chief in Canada had been able to restrain the Indians, Considering the many reasons they had for Acts of retaliations And that it was not to be supposed; but we must keep out Small reconoitring Parties

General Haldimand -

Parties Especially When we had to do with
so very interprising a Military Genius as
Colonel Willet; that he might depend upon it
that I should Comply with the very Strict orders
I had from the Commander in Chief, in not Com-
mitting any act of Hostility Whatever, which
would fully Comply with His majesty's Proclamation

I have the honor to be respectfully
Your Excellencys
Most Humble and most
Obedient Servant
Allan Maclean

1783.

Return

B. Genl. Maclean

27th April to 7th May

Niagara

Entd in Book C (No 1) fol. 74

Sir

Niagara 28th April 1783

Some time ago, I was Honored with Your Excellency's Letter of the 18th February, in Answer to my Letter and Memorial of the 19th October from Montreal, for which I return my thanks.

Many words are not Necessary to explain to your Excellency the disagreeable Situation I must be in very soon. After 16 Years Service, purchasing three Commissions, at 56 Years of age with a family I shall be immediately reduced to Eight Shillings and Sixpence per day.

Your Excellency's Humanity & Good Nature to those in distress I am well acquainted with, and as I shall in a few Weeks come under that description; the favour I would request, is to have leave to go to England, under your Excellency's Protection And recommendation, in which case, I have not a doubt, but I might have something done for me. but all will depend upon my geting to England before the General Arrangements are made, with respect to such Parts of this Country as we shall keep.

I shall submit my case wholly to your Excellency Consideration, and shall Only add that I shall never be ungrateful for favours received

I have the honor to be with respect

Your Excellency's
Most Humble &
most Obedient Servant

Allan Maclean

General Haldimand

Gentlemen

Council wrote to you some time ago, desiring that you would endeavour to have the most effectual measures speedily adopted by Congress for making peace with the Indian Nations. Having lately received advices that about forty inhabitants of this State have been killed and taken by them, and having reason to be assured that these hostilities will be continued along the frontiers, We think it our duty earnestly to repeat our request.

That the United States might appear more respectable to those Nations at a Treaty to be held with them after the delivery of Niagara and Detroit &c. by the British; but in the mean time We hope such steps may be taken as may be the means of saving many lives and preventing great calamities. We wish Congress would be pleased to consider whether it might not have a good effect upon the Indians, to inform them by authority, that Peace has been made with Great Britain, the articles of which are now carrying into execution. that the back Country with all the Forts &c. is thereby ceded to us; that they must now depend upon us for their preservation; and that unless they immediately cease from their outrages and remain quiet till we can hold a treaty with them at Niagara or Detroit, we will instantly turn upon them our Armies, that have conquered the King of Great Britain, and now have no other enemies to employ their valour, and exterpate them from the land where they were born, and now live. But, that if they behave as they ought

to

to do they shall be treated not only justly but kindly. Such intelligence as this with the advance of a proper reinforcement to General Irvine at Pittsburgh, and the exertions of the Troops under his command might put a stop to the cruelties of the Savages, or at least prevent their becoming more extensive.

I am Gentlemen
with much esteem and regard
Your obedient & humble servant
Wm Dunlap

The Honble The Delegates of Pennsylvania
in Congress

Letter from the President
& Council of Pennsylvania
April 20th 1703.
Read April 30.
Referred to the Secty
of War.

## Pres. Dickinson to Delegates in Congress, 1783.

In Council, Pa., Apl. 29th, '83.

Gentlemen,

Council wrote to you some time ago, desiring that you would endeavour to have the most effectual measures speedily adopted by Congress for making Peace with the Indian nations. Having lately received advices that about forty Inhabitants of this State have been killed and taken by them, & having good Reason to be assured, that these Hostilities will be continued along the Frontiers, we think it our Duty earnestly to repeat our Request.

Perhaps the United States might appear more respectable to those nations at a Treaty to be held with them after the Delivery of Niagara & Detroit tolls by the British; but, in the meantime, we hope such steps may be taken, as may be the means of saving many lives, and preventing great Calamities. We wish Congress would be pleased to consider, whether it might not have a good effect upon the Indians, to inform them by authority, that Peace has been made with Great Britain, the articles of which are now carrying into Execution; that the Back Country with all the Forts is thereby ceded to us; that they must now depend upon us for their Preservation and, that unless they immediately cease from their outrages, & remain quiet till we can hold a Treaty with them at Niagara or Detroit, we will instantly turn upon them our armies that have conquered the king of Great Britain, and now have us other Enemies to employ their Valour, and extirpate them from the Land where they were born and now live: But, that if they behave as they ought to do, they shall be treated not only justly, but friendly. Such Intelligence as this with the advance of a proper Reinforcement to Genl. Irvine at Pittsburg, & the Exertions of the Troops under his Command, might put a stop to the cruelties of the savages, or at least prevent their becoming more extensive.

I am Gentlemen

with great Esteem and Regard

Your &c^a.,

J. D.*

*Indorsed,*

1783, April 29th. To Hon'ble The Delegates of Penn'a in Congress.

* See page 46.

THURSDAY, MAY 1, 1783

On motion of Mr. A[rthur] Lee, seconded by Mr. [Silas] Condict,

*Resolved*, That when a member takes any paper from the files of Congress, he shall leave a receipt for the same in the office.[1]

A letter having been read from the minister of France to the Secretary for Foreign affairs, requesting him to inform Congress of the proposed departure of the Duke de Lauzun's legion and other detachments of Count Rochambeau's army for France; and expressing, with the Duke de Lauzun, the sense that he and the other officers and men of this army entertain of the harmony which has subsisted between them and the inhabitants of these states, and of the hospitality with which they have been treated by them:[2]

*Resolved*, That the Secretary for Foreign affairs inform the minister of France, that Congress learn with pleasure the satisfaction which the Duke de Lauzun, and the officers and men of the French army in America express, in the harmony which has subsisted between them and the inhabitants of these states, since it exhibits at the same time a strong proof of the good disposition and discipline of the commanders, officers and men, and the just sense the people of this country entertain of the important services they have rendered.

As a further testimony of which,

*Resolved*, That the Secretary for Foreign affairs inform the Duke de Lauzun, and the officers and men under his command, that the United States in Congress assembled are highly sensible of their successful exertions in the cause of America, and of the strict attention which they have at all

[1] This motion, in the writing of Arthur Lee, is in the *Papers of the Continental Congress*, No. 36, II, folio 183.

[2] This paragraph, and the resolutions following it, were entered also in the manuscript Secret Journal, Foreign Affairs.

times paid to the rights of its citizens; and while they rejoice at the events which have brought tranquillity to these states, it adds to their pleasure to reflect, that it restores those who have been active in procuring it to their friends and their country.[1]

On the report of a committee, consisting of Mr. [Nathaniel] Gorham, Mr. [Thomas] Fitzsimmons and Mr. [Samuel] Holten, to whom was referred a memorial from Mr. [Benjamin] Hawkins and Mr. [Hugh] Williamson:

*Ordered,* That the Secretary for Foreign affairs forward to the British general and admiral commanding at New York, a copy of the papers laid before Congress by Mr. [Benjamin] Hawkins and Mr. [Hugh] Williamson, delegates from the State of North Carolina, respecting the capture of a flag, ~~together with a copy of their memorial assuring them that Congress are persuaded they will not fail to make the necessary enquiries respecting the premises and~~ that justice ~~will~~ may be done.[2]

Congress resumed the consideration of the report of the committee on the memorial of Oliver Pollock; Whereupon,

On motion of Mr. [John] Rutledge, seconded by Mr.

*Resolved,* That Oliver Pollock be allowed five thousand dollars as a compensation for his ~~losses and~~ extraordinary services.[3]

*Ordered,* That the remainder of the report be re-committed.

[1] These resolutions, and La Luzerne's letter, dated Philadelphia, April 29, 1783, are printed in *The Diplomatic Correspondence of the American Revolution* (Wharton), VI, 397 and 398.

[2] This order, in the writing of Hugh Williamson, is in the *Papers of the Continental Congress*, No. 20, II, folio 355. The representation of Hawkins and Williamson, dated April 16, 1783, is in No. 43, folio 205, and, according to the indorsement, was laid before Congress the same day. The papers laid before Congress are in No. 76, folios 7-35. The order was also entered in the manuscript Secret Journal, Foreign Affairs.

[3] This motion, in the writing of John Rutledge, is in the *Papers of the Continental Congress*, No. 36, II, folio 65.

On a report of the Secretary at War, to whom was referred a letter from President Dickinson to the delegates of Pensylvania:[1]

WAR OFFICE *May 1st 1783.*

SIR,

On the letter from President Dickinson to the Delegates of Pennsylvania in Congress, and a letter from General Irvine to the Secretary at War, both representing the hostile proceedings of the Indians against the inhabitants on the frontiers of this State, I beg leave to submit the following draught of a resolve to the consideration of Congress:

*Resolved*, That the Secretary at War take the most effectual measures immediately to inform the several Indian nations on the frontiers of the United States that a peace has been concluded with Great Britain and to communicate to them what cessions of forts and territory have been thereby made to the United States, assuring them at the same time that the different posts will soon be occupied by the American troops, intimating also that the United States are disposed to enter into friendly treaty with the different tribes.

*Ordered*, That the Secretary at War transmit the proceedings of Congress herein, with copies of President Dickinson's and General Irvine's letters to the Commander in Chief, who is directed to request Sir Guy Carleton to take such measures as may second the views of Congress, and prevent the commission of farther hostilities by the Indian nations in alliance with Great Britain against the citizens of the United States.[2]

*Resolved*, That the Secretary at War take the most effectual measures to inform the several Indian nations, on the frontiers of the United States, that preliminary articles of peace have been agreed on, and hostilities have ceased with Great Britain, and to communicate to them that the forts within the United States, and in possession of the British troops, will speedily be evacuated; intimating also that the United States are disposed to enter into friendly treaty with the different tribes; and to inform the hostile Indian nations, that unless they immediately cease all hostilities against the

[1] Dickinson's letter, dated April 28, is in the *Papers of the Continental Congress*, No. 69, II, folio 447.

[2] This report is in the *Papers of the Continental Congress*, No. 149, II, folio 461.

citizens of these states, and accept of these friendly proffers of peace, Congress will take the most decided measures to compel them thereto.

*Ordered*, That the Secretary at War transmit the proceedings of Congress herein, with copies of President Dickinson's and General Irwine's letters, to the Commander in Chief and to the commissioners for Indian affairs in the northern department.

On the report of a committee, consisting of Mr. [Alexander] Hamilton, Mr. [Oliver] Ellsworth and Mr. [John] Rutledge, to whom was referred a letter of February 5, from the honourable J. Adams,

The Committee to whom was referred the letter from Mr. Adams of the report

That they have examined the different instructions given to our Commissioners and Ministers abroad and find that the Commissioners for making peace have an implied power to comprehend commercial stipulations in a Treaty of peace, but that there is no direct subsisting power of entering into a treaty of commerce with Great Britain distinct from the treaty of peace.

The Committee are of opinion that a special commission for that purpose ought without delay to be transmitted to the three remaining commissioners for peace, Mr. Franklin, Mr. Adams and Mr. Jay; and this for the following reasons:

First, it is to be inferred from Mr. Adams' letter, who as one of them is to be supposed to know their intention, that the commissioners for making peace have it not in contemplation to interweave into the treaty of peace such ample commercial stipulations as might supersede the necessity of particular treaty of commerce, otherwise it would be misplaced to urge Congress to appoint and authorise a minister for that purpose.

2dly. Though it should be the intention of the said commissioners to enter largely into commercial stipulations, yet if difficulties should intervene in that business, which might postpone too long the benefits of a definitive treaty of peace, they may judge it preferable to forego for the present such stipulations, to bring that important object to a speedy conclusion.

3dly. It is of great importance to The United States as soon as practicable to have a treaty of commerce with Great Britain, not

only on account of the immediate advantages of that commerce but from the possibility of making it the means of extending our commercial privileges with other nations; and because it is probable the impressions of the present conjuncture may be more favourable to the views of these States than a future period.

The Committee are also of opinion that it will be expedient to authorise the Commissioners to enter into a temporary convention agreeable to Mr. Adams' idea to last for one year, to give time to mature and conclude the treaty of commerce, and to instruct them at the same time to stipulate that the treaty which they may enter into shall be subject to the revisal and observations of Congress before it shall be finally concluded.

On these principles The Committee submit the following resolution

*Ordered*, That a commission be prepared to Messrs. J. Adams, B. Franklin and J. Jay, authorising them, or either of them in the absence of the others, to enter into a treaty of commerce between the United States of America and Great Britain, subject to the revisal of the contracting parties previous to its final conclusion; and in the mean time to enter into a commercial convention to continue in force one year.

That the Secretary for foreign affairs lay before Congress, without delay, a plan of a treaty of commerce and instructions relative to the same, to be transmitted to the said commissioners.[1]

[Report respecting Invalid Corps. Mr. Alexander Hamilton, Mr. Richard Peters, Mr. Daniel Carroll.]

*Resolved*, That the Corps of Invalids be reduced, such officers as have lost a limb or been ~~otherwise~~ equally disabled in service to retire on full pay for life, ~~or at their option collectively to the amount of seven years' full pay in gross~~ such officers as may not be included in this description to retire on ~~half pay for life~~ the same principles with other officers of the army, such Non Commissioned officers and soldiers as being strangers in the country and having been disabled

[1] This report, in the writing of Alexander Hamilton, is in the *Papers of the Continental Congress*, No. 19, I, folio 33.

The order was entered only in the manuscript Secret Journal, Foreign Affairs, and in Secret Journal No. 4.

in service are incapable of providing for their own subsistence and are proper subjects for a Hospital, to be received into some fixed Hospital, to be appropriated for the purpose, and there supported during life on such provision as may be hereafter determined, to be entitled in the meantime to their usual rations and clothing; and such Non Commissioned officers and soldiers disabled in service as may have homes to which they can retire, to be discharged on the principles of the resolution of the 23rd of April last.

That the Secretary at War be directed to take proper measures previous to the reduction to ascertain the different classes above described, ~~and to report a list of them respectively to Congress.~~

That the officers who shall retire on full pay, may at their option collectively accept in lieu of such full pay for life the amount of years' full pay ~~in money or securities~~ on the terms of the resolutions of the last.

That at the reduction of this Corps all the officers and men shall receive one month's pay and shall share in any farther payments which may be made to the other parts of the army when reduced.[1]

The committee of the week [Mr. Eliphalet Dyer, Mr. Samuel Holten and Mr. Arthur Lee,] report ~~That the memorial of William Trent praying an answer to a petition relative to a tract of land called Vandalia for which he states the memorialist and his associates had contracted for with his Britannic Majesty be returned to the memorialist.~~

That the account of William Hartshorne of Alexandria in the State of Virginia, be referred to the Superintendant of finance to take order; ~~and that he transmit a copy of the account to the Executive of the State of Virginia with information of his intention to pay it here if it has not been previously settled in that State.~~[2]

*Ordered*, That a letter of 21st April from Jos: Borden for settlement of his accounts be referred to the Superintendant of Finance to report.

*Ordered*, That a memorial of Mordecai Lewis in behalf of William Hartshorn respecting the discharge of an obligation of Marquis de la

[1] This report, in the writing of Alexander Hamilton, is in the *Papers of the Continental Congress*, No. 31, folio 273. The indorsement states that it was delivered this day.

[2] This report, in the writing of Arthur Lee, except the last line, which is in the writing of James Madison, is in the *Papers of the Continental Congress*, No. 32, folio 473. By the indorsement it is dated this day. Trent's memorial is in No. 77, folio 222.

Fayette to said William Hartshorn be referred to the Superintendant of Finance to take order.[1]

## FRIDAY, MAY 2, 1783

On the report of the committee, to whom was re-committed the remainder of their report on the memorial of Oliver Pollock:

Upon the last clause in the report of the Committee on the account of Oliver Pollock, re-committed, the committee offer the following resolution:

*Resolved*, That the Superintendant of finance inform himself, as soon as may be, whether the governor or treasurer of New Orleans hold the United States accountable for seventy-four thousand and eighty-seven dollars, supplied by a former governor to Oliver Pollock, and by him charged to these United States: that in the mean time no part of the balance which shall appear to be due to the said O. Pollock, over and above the aforesaid sum of 74,087 dollars, shall be detained from him on account of the resolution of the 7th day of November, 1781; and that the Superintendant of finance take order for payment of the said balance, as soon as the situation of the finances will permit.[2]

On the report of a committee, consisting of Mr. [Theodorick] Bland, Mr. [Alexander] Hamilton and Mr. [Richard] Peters, to whom were referred a memorial of Major Villefranche

[1] These two orders were entered only in the journal kept by the Secretary of Congress for the Superintendent of Finance; *Morris Papers; Congressional Proceedings.*

On this day, as the indorsement indicates, was read a letter of May 1 from the Superintendent of Finance, relative to goods imported in the ships *Duc de Lauzun* and *Washington*. It was referred to Mr. [Stephen] Higginson, Mr. [Benjamin] Hawkins and Mr. [John Lewis] Gervais. It is in the *Papers of the Continental Congress*, No. 137, II, folio 403. According to Committee Book No. 191, a report was delivered May 14, and filed.

Also a letter of April 22 from the Secretary at War enclosing a letter of General Irvine, which was returned to the War Office. The Secretary at War's letter is in No. 149, II, folio 445.

[2] This report, in the writing of Thomas FitzSimons, is in the *Papers of the Continental Congress*, No. 50, folio 303. See *ante* April 10.

Estimation of a Building
the property of Mr
Forsyth — 1st May 1783

Niagara 2d May 83

Sir

I am honored with your Excellency's Letter of the 11th Aprile, Ordering that the Kings Vessells on Lake Erie for the first Trip should be employed in Carrying Merchandize, an indulgence they were greatly in want of, and your Excellencys Orders shall be punctually Obeyed. — Early last week the Seneca arrived here, with the Cloathing of the 84th Regiment and 400 Barrells of Porke, But am Sorry to inform your Excellency that 200 Barrells of the 400, were without a drop of Pickle, and that the other 200 Barrells are in such bad condition they will not bear the transport to Detroit without reducing them to be in the same Perishable State with the 200, that are now without Pickle; Capt Bouchette tells me, that out of the 400 Barrells of Porke at Carleton Island, he took 400 of the best, of his report is Confirmed to me, by the Arrival of the Dimocrate yesterday, with 764 Barrells of Porke, Still in a worse Condition than the former Cargo, this is Surely a most distressing & disagreeable Situation. I should not however be under any apprehension of saving the greatest part of this Porke, were there Coshes here, to repack & repickle the Porke as we have plenty of Salt, the dishest lies in the Want of Barrells, and that is an Evil to which there is neather remedy or resource having already used every rum Barrell or Puncheon on the Ground the Merchants gave me all they had long Ago. This is a matter of so much importance, that I thought my duty to Communicate the same to your Excellency as soon as possible, and I am greatly afraid, in spite of every Effort, that a quantity of it will soon be unfit for use, especially as the warm weather is at hand.

If the terms of Peace between Great Britain and America, are such as we have seen in Philadelphia papers the Indians will be Outrageous, And I beg leave to mention, from Colonel Butler, as well as from my self; that Sir John Johnson should make his Appearance here as soon as possible, it never can be more Necessary than at this moment

General Haldimand

Sir

Sir Johns Letter and Speech was read and explained to all the Chiefs of the Six nations; there he Promises to see them, the instant the Navigation is Open, and they do expect it, whither Peace or War, they are Naturally of a very Jealous disposition, and may be Outrageous, when they knows their Country is to be in the Power of the Americans and Sir Johns not appearing, will make them Conceive matters to be worse than they really are, Colonel Bullin also desires me to say, that there have been Promises made to the Chiefs by Colonel Johnson; Promises that are only known to himself & Chiefs, And therefore leaves it to your Excellencys Consideration, if Colonel Johnson Ought not to be here, to clear up those matters himself, which no other person can do. When the Intelligence sent by Sir Guy Carleton from New York (of the Rebells intentions & a part of General Washingtons Army) came here, I sent Messages and Belts to the Chiefs, and inclosed herewith I have the Honor to transmit to Your Excellency, their Answers by which you will see, that they were perfectly Steady & firm in their attachement to the Interest of his Majes[ty]—

I have the Honor to be most respectfully

Your Excellencys

Most Obedient And

Most Humble Servant—

Allan Maclean

[illegible] Lord Lieutenant, and Major
Genl Maclean has also refused to obey any
[illegible] of the Lord Lieutenant ——
I must push for help to write much
to this post, and have but time only [illegible]
for tomorrow by this time I hope to have [illegible]
promises ——

I have employed with the Enclosed Letters
[illegible] a trusty & faithful Servant Sir Alan
Hume & I hope he safely [illegible] them
[illegible] & Dispatches to Sir Guy Carleton
at Montreal & Quebec & I hope he will
find his way through the Country
safely, & speedily as I shall write [illegible]
Lord Germain & Genl Haldimand
by the Packet which sails from Falmouth
the 1st of March next — I shall
also write to Sir Guy Carleton & Genl
Haldimand by the Packet which sails
from Falmouth the 1st of April
next — I have also sent Duplicates
of my Letters to Sir Guy Carleton
& Genl Haldimand by the Packet
which sails from Falmouth the 1st
of March next — I have also
sent Duplicates of my Letters
to Sir Guy Carleton & Genl
Haldimand by the Packet which
sails from Falmouth the 1st of
April next — I have also sent
Duplicates of my Letters to Sir
Guy Carleton & Genl Haldimand
by the Packet which sails from
Falmouth the 1st of May next —
I have also sent Duplicates of my
Letters to Sir Guy Carleton & Genl
Haldimand by the Packet which
sails from Falmouth the 1st of
June next — I have also sent
Duplicates of my Letters to Sir
Guy Carleton & Genl Haldimand
by the Packet which sails from
Falmouth the 1st of July next —
I have also sent Duplicates of my
Letters to Sir Guy Carleton & Genl
Haldimand by the Packet which
sails from Falmouth the 1st of
August next — I have also sent
Duplicates of my Letters to Sir
Guy Carleton & Genl Haldimand
by the Packet which sails from
Falmouth the 1st of September
next — I have also sent Duplicates
of my Letters to Sir Guy Carleton
& Genl Haldimand by the Packet
which sails from Falmouth the 1st
of October next — I have also
sent Duplicates of my Letters to
Sir Guy Carleton & Genl Haldimand
by the Packet which sails from
Falmouth the 1st of November
next — I have also sent Duplicates
of my Letters to Sir Guy Carleton
& Genl Haldimand by the Packet
which sails from Falmouth the 1st
of December next — I have also
sent Duplicates of my Letters to
Sir Guy Carleton & Genl Haldimand
by the Packet which sails from
Falmouth the 1st of January
next — I have also sent Duplicates
of my Letters to Sir Guy Carleton
& Genl Haldimand by the Packet
which sails from Falmouth the 1st
of February next — I have also
sent Duplicates of my Letters to
Sir Guy Carleton & Genl Haldimand
by the Packet which sails from
Falmouth the 1st of March next —
I have also sent Duplicates of my
Letters

1793.

Lieut.
L. L. W. Burton
3d Maty. Regt.

Copy of a Letter from Major
Wells Commanding Fort Nelson
on the Ohio to the Warriors of
the Shawanese May 3d 1783

No 21

Sir Copy Niagara 4th May 1783 65

Yesterday I was honored with your Excellency's Letter of the 24th April, with its several inclosures — On the 21st Ult. a Copy of His Majesty's Proclamation was sent me by Major Ross from Oswego, to which Post it had been sent by a Flag of Truce from Albany, together with a Letter from Captain Jonge and Mr. Roberts on; Signifying that they were on their way from New York to Canada, with Dispatches from Sir Guy Carleton to His Excellency General Haldimand — And in order to prevent any acts of Hostility whatever; I immediately, and with all possible dispatch, sent a Copy of it to Major Depeyster the Commanding Officer at Detroit, in Order to prevent any disagreeable Consequences that might arise to the Inhabitants of the United States, from the very improper Conduct of General Clark in the Indian Country.

I must beg leave to mention to Your Excellency that I was a good deal surprised to receive a Letter from Messrs. Jonge and Roberts on from Albany, Acquainting me, that Colonel Willet had made a Complaint to them, that the Settlement of Wioming had been lately Cut off by the Indians; knowing, as I did, that there was no foundation for any such Complaint, and that no attempt whatever had been made against that, or any other Settlement on the Frontiers, since I had the Honor to Command the Upper Posts.

I had the most positive Orders from His Excellency General Haldimand, to restrain the Light Troops and Indians, from any Offensive War; and am happy to say, that I have succeeded to my Wishes in obeying that Order: at the same time, I must do the Indians the Justice to declare, that, notwithstanding the very great provocation they met with, they have implicitly followed the directions given them by mine, Their His Majesty's Superintendant, Agreeable, to the Orders I had received, and that they Committed no Act of Hostility, except, Killing and Scalping two men within 40 miles of Fort Pitt, by three young Delaware Indians last February; they had been out some Months Hunting; and on their return, they were discountenanced by me, by not being suffered to appear with their Scalps, and sent off without receiving any One thing from the Kings Stores, besides being reprimanded

by

by their Chiefs Severly in Presence of the Superintendant, at my request; the greatest Mortification an Indian could meet with — They Excused themselves, by saying that they had been Out & absent Hunting so long that they had not heard of their being restrained from every Act of Hostility, but they should do so no more. The Extraordinary Expedition of Colonel Willet against Oswego last February Greatly Alarmed the Indians: and to Guard against the attempts of so very enterprizing an Officer, I detached four Small Scouts of White Men & Indians each Consisting of Six Men, to reconnoitre — One of which Scouts took two Men Prisoners, 40 Miles on this Side of Wioming; They were brought in here unhurt, have been well treated, and are gone to Canada, to be restored to their Friends — Colonel Willets Complaint therefore must have proceeded from this Circumstance only, and of which he himself was the Occasion. I have taken the liberty to Mention these particulars, to prevent such false reports from gaining any Credit, least it might Occasion any disagreable Consequences to either Party.

Benevolence and Humanity are Noble Virtues, and Constitute the Character of every honest Man: and no Set of Men ought to possess, or exercise them in a greater extent, than Military Men; and tho' I cannot deem the Information, I had the Honor to receive from your Excellency, as Official; You may be assured, that I shall pay them that attention, that shall in every respect answer your wishes, and in doing this, I shall only Comply with the Orders Received from the Commander in Chief in Canada, previous to my having Seen, the Kings Speech, or His Proclamation; and to Convince you Sir, of the Pains & trouble that have been taken by General Haldimand, to prevent, not only every Act of Cruelty, but even of retaliation. I take the Liberty of transmiting to you herewith, an Extract from His Letter to me of the 7th last February; and at the same time to assure you that no Acts of Wanton Cruelty have been Medditated by the Indians, against the Frontiers this Winter. — They once indeed, had resolved to retaliate, the very unnecessary Ores, excercised against them by Some of the Officers & Men of Congress, and the Conduct and Forbearance of the

Indians

Indians on that Occasion, has been highly meritorious, and does them great honor. — I also take the Liberty of transmitting to Your Excellency, an Albany News Paper, publishing a Letter said to be written from Boston last March.

The Printing and Publishing such base and scandalous falsehoods, must be intended for the most Wicked purposes, that of inflaming the Minds of the ignorant Multitude, and to induce them, to Commit Acts of Wanton Cruelty against the Indians: And I cannot help being of Opinion, that, the permitting such Publications to be Printed (knowing them to be false, which Must be the case) would be a disgrace to any Nation, or Country under the Sun, who have had any degree of Civilization amongst them. — It is however a peculiar Misfortune, which has ever attended all Civil Wars, that a Certain degree of Acrimony and Obstinacy prevails, which are unknown in carrying on War between Foreign States. — The Blessings of Peace being now restored, I Trust in God, that all Animosities shall cease, and that mutual Harmony, and real Reconciliation shall take place, and Feud and Discord be buried in Oblivion.

I have the Honor to be

Your Excellency's
Most Obedient and
most Humble Servant
Allan Maclean

General Washington

Copy of a Letter from Brigad.r
General Maclean Commanding
at Niagara, & General
Washington, Dated 2d. May 83

B

Entrd in Niagara Book C (No 1) fol. 81

last year the Comander in Chief, directed Brigadier General Powell to Order an Indian Store House and Council Room to be built there. In Order to have the Ground to build that House, a House belonging to Taylor & Forsyth was pulled Down, all to one Small bit of Wood Ends. that is for no use, Taylor & Forsyth had purchased this House from Mr. Robertson, who had purchased it from Mr. Pollard, it cost them £100 York Currency, it Appears, that when the Houses were taken from them for Government, there was no Survey or Valuation put upon it. I have got the Engineer and master Carpenter to Survey and Value it, and I now here with transmit to you for his Excellency's information the Amount of the Valuations put by them upon that part of the House taken by Government, amounting to £83-15 York Currency, leaving to Mr. Taylor and Forsyth, the materials of the Small remaining part of the House, which indeed Can be of no great Value

I shall be much oblige to His Excellency, if he will be pleased to let me know his will & pleasure on that subject, as these People wish to know, what his Excellency will allow them for the House, the Valuation now inclosed they think too little, as the House cost them a great deal more, but that is no business of mine, I transmit, what the Engineer & Master

Capt. Mathews

Carpenter

General, and that he will not find fault with us for following the Example of the Rebels. And tho' we have hitherto, in general refrained from retaliating their Cruelties except in the Instance of Colonel Crawford, the principal Agent in the Murder of the Moravians — and He was burned with Justice and according to our Custom, Yet we make no doubt the Rebels will imagine that our not going to War proceeds from Fear — We therefore purpose to send a Flag to them, to acquaint them that we shall in future follow the Game set us by themselves, seeing it is their Intention to destroy the Indians and possess themselves of their Country. ——

Niagara 5th May 1783.

Sir.

On the 3d. Instant three Oneida Indians arrived here express from General Washington from Newburgh, with a Letter to me from the General, which Letter with its several inclosures, together with a Copy of my Letter to Gen. Washington, I have the Honor to transmit to your Excellency, hoping, and trusting that you may not disapprove of what I have written to General Washington, by the return of this Express.

I do Confess the Letter is a long one, but I apprehended, that it was [illegible] duty to Vindicate the Indians from the many Groß and False aspersions laid to their Charge; and in so doing this, that I should only be complying with your Excellency's wishes and intentions respecting the Indians. — Colonel Butler tells me he has wrote to Sir John requesting earnestly that he would come up immediately, I have granted leave of Absence to Brigade Major Dunbar to settle some private family affairs. This I granted the more readily, as I had no use for him here, & might be easily spared.

I shall have the honor to be &c.

Signed Allan Maclean

Inclosures to the foregoing Letter —

Extract of a Letter from Genl. Haldimand to Sir Guy Carleton. dated Quebec 17th Feb.

" I have very lately received Letters from Brigadier General M'Lean commanding in the Upper Country accompanied by a Speech from the Six Nation Indians, so strongly expressive of their resentment at and determination to retaliate the late barbarity committed by the Virginians in the total destruction of a Shawanese Settlement (Standing Stone Village) and the indiscriminate massacre of all its Inhabitants, that I think it my duty to the King's Service to communicate their resolution to you for the purpose of representing to General Washington the fatal consequences which must unavoidably follow the unwarrantable Inroad lately which has been taken of my restraining in consequence of Orders from the King those the Light Troops and Indians from offensive War in that Quarter. I have employed every argument in my power to suggest, to dissuade the Indians from their purpose at the same time I cannot passively look on and see their Country ravaged their Women and Children murdered for their attachment to the Loyal Cause. I have therefore promised to assist them with Troops and by every means in my power to support the

incursion

incursions of the Enemy into their County and I shall most faithfully perform
the difficulty and uncertainty of communicating at this Distance with General
Washington prevents my addressing him my self upon this interesting Subject — but
your Situation affords a facility of doing it which I request you will improve
should you, as I do, think it necessary for the Kings Service — for which
purpose I inclose to you an Extract of the Speech delivered by the Spanish Ambassadors

Reports have lately circulated here that Charles Town is evacuated
that the french fleet and Army have departed for the West Indies that Lord Howe
has effectually relieved Gibraltar and obtained some advantages over the combined
fleet with many others that may be equally true or false and which I can
neither confirm or contradict not having received the least Official communica-
tion from any Quarter"

Certified
Signed M. Morgann
Secty

Head Quarters New York
31st March 1783

Copy of a letter from Sir Guy Carleton to Gen Washington dated New York April 9th 1783

I have written to General Haldimand, acquainting him
that the preliminaries of a General Peace have been signed and ratified, and
have given my dispatches into the care of Capt. Richard P. Pringe and Mr
Wm Robertson of the Naval Department in Canada, with directions to
proceed over land to Canada without any delay, but to this end it may be necessary
they should be furnished with passports from your Excellency, which I cannot
doubt will be immediately given —

(Signed) Guy Carleton

Copy of a letter from General Washington, to Brigadier Gen. Maclean
Dated Head Quarters Newburgh 11th April 1783 —

Sir —

I have the Honor to inform you that on the 3d of April
I received from Sir Guy Carleton the enclosed Extract of a letter from Genl Haldimand
No 1 — On the 8th a proclamation from the King of Great Britain was sent me
by Sir Guy — No 2 — And on the 10th a Letter, of which No 3. is a Copy, was
received, requesting Passports for two Gentlemen bearing Dispatches from the British
Commander in Chief to General Haldimand, announcing the ratification of the
preliminary Articles of a general Peace & Cessation of Hostilities — Passports
was immediately granted and the Gentlemen are on their way to Canada.

The Distance to General Haldimand being great, & his situation
so wide from your Post, that great Time must elapse before you can receive
his Dispatches; — I have taken the Liberty to make this Communication
to you by the directest Route in my power in confident hope, that, although
you may not deem this Information Official, yet that your Benevolence
will cause it to be regarded with such Attention, that, if it does not prove

a total cessation of Hostilities within your Command — yet it may at least prevent any unnecessary & wanton Acts of Cruelty which may have been meditated by the Indians on the Frontiers; — and which, in their Consequences, may prove as disagreeable to them as distressing to the Inhabitants of the United States. —

I have the Honor to be &c.

(Signed) G. Washington

Copy of a Letter from Brig.r Gen.l Maclean to General Washington, dated at Niagara 4th. May 1783. —

Sir.

Yesterday I was honored with your Excellency's Letter of the 11th April with its several inclosures — On the 21st Ult.o a Copy of His Majesty's Proclamation was sent me by Major Ross from Oswego, to which Post it had been sent by a Flag of Truce from Albany, together with a Letter from Captain Forge & Mr. Robertson, signifying that they were on their way from New York to Canada, with Dispatches for His Excellency General Haldimand. — And in order to prevent [illegible] whatever, I immediately, and with all possible dispatch, sent a Copy of it to Major Peyster the Commanding Officer at Detroit, in Order to prevent any disagreeable Consequences that might arise to the Inhabitants of the United States, from the very improper Conduct of General Clark in the Indian Country.

I must beg Leave to mention to your Excellency that I was a good deal surprised to receive a Letter from Messrs. Forge and Robertson from Albany, Acquainting me, that Lieut.t Col.o Willet had made a Complaint to them, that the Settlem.ts of Wyoming had been lately Cut off by the Indians; knowing, as I did, that there was no foundation for any such Complaint, and that no attempts whatever had been made against that, or any other Settlement on the Frontiers, since I had the Honor to Command the Upper Posts.

I had the most Positive Orders from His Excellency Gen.l Haldimand to restrain the Light Troops and Indians, from any Offensive War; and am Happy to say, that I have succeeded to my wishes in obeying that order: At the same time I must do the Indians the Justice to declare, that, notwithstanding the very great Provocation they met with, they have implicitly followed the directions given them by me, thro' His Majesty's Superintendant, agreeable, to the Orders I had received, and that they Committed no Act of Hostility, except, Killing, and Scalping two men within 40 miles of Fort Pitt, by three young Delaware Indians last February they had been out some months Hunting; and on their return, they were discountenanced by me, by not being suffered to appear with their Scalps, & sent off without receiving any one thing from the Kings Stores, besides being reprimanded by their Chiefs severely in presence of the Superintendant, at any request; the greatest mortification an Indian could meet with. — They excused themselves by saying that they had been out Farbent Hunting, so long that they had not heard of their being restrained from every Act of Hostility, but they should do so no more. The extraordinary Expedition of Colonel Willet against Oswego last February greatly alarmed the Indians: and to Guard against the attempts of so very enterprizing an Officer, I detached four small Scouts

of

of White men and Indians each consisting of Six men, to Reconnoitre; One of which Scouts took two men Prisoners, 40 miles on this side of Wioming; They were brought in here unhurt, have been well treated, and are gone to Canada, to be restored to their Friends — Colonel Willets Complaint therefore must have proceeded from this Circumstance only, and of which he himself was the Occasion. I have taken the liberty to mention these Particulars, to prevent such false reports from gaining any Credit, least it might Occasion any disagreeable Consequences to either Party.

— Benevolence and Humanity are Noble Virtues, and Constitute the Character of every honest man: and no set of Men ought to possess, or exercise them in a greater extent, than Military men; and tho' I cannot deem these Information, I had the Honor to receive from your Excellency, as Official, you may be assured, that I shall pay them that Attention, that shall in every respect answer your Wishes, and in doing this I shall only Comply with the Orders I received from the Commander in Chief in Canada, previous to my having seen, the King's Speech, or His Proclamation; and to convince you Sir, of the Pains and trouble that have been taken by General Haldimand, to prevent, not only every Act of Cruelty, but even of retaliation. I take the liberty of transmitting to You herewith an Extract from His Letter to me of the 7th last February; and I shall at this time to assure you that no Acts of Wanton Cruelty have been meditated by the Indians, against the Frontiers this Winter. — They once indeed, had resolved to Retaliate the Unnecessary ones, exercised against them by some of the Officers & Men of Long and the Conduct and forbearance of the Indians on that occasion, has been Meritorious, and does them great honor. — I also take the Liberty of transmitting to your Excellency, An Albany News Paper, publishing a letter said to be written from Boston last March. The Printing and Publishing such base & scandalous falsehoods, must be intended for the most wicked purposes, that of inflaming the Minds of the ignorant Multitude, and to induce them, to Commit Acts of Blood Cruelty against the Indians; And I cannot help being of Opinion, that, the permitting such Publications to be Printed (knowing them to be false, which must be the case) would be a disgrace to any Nation, or Country under the Sun, who have had any degree of Civilization amongst them. — It is however a peculiar Misfortune, which however attended all Civil Wars, that a certain degree of Acrimony & Obstinacy prevails, which are unknown in carrying on War between Foreign States. The Blessings of Peace being now restored, I trust in God, that all Animosities shall cease, and that mutual Harmony and real Reconciliation shall take place, and Feud and Discord be buried in Oblivion.

I have the honor to be &c.
Signed Allan Maclean

Niagara 5th May 1783 —

Capt. Mathews.

Sir

You will no doubt recollect, that, some time ago, you sent me an Albany News Paper, publishing the most diabolical falsehoods that ever entered into the heads, or hearts of the most villanous people under the sun, and desiring me at His Excellency's request to be careful in keeping it from the Indians, and only publish it in case the War should go on; The War being now Ended, I thought that the only least

use

1808

From D

Brigadier Gen.l Macleon
to the Sec.y May Rec.d 21.st
with Ls enclosures —

Niagara 6

Entd in Book C (No 1) Folio 79

Sir

Niagara 5th May 1783.

You will no doubt recollect that some time ago, you sent me an Albany News Paper, publishing the most Diabolical falsehood that ever entered into the head, or heart of the most Villainous people under the Sun, and desiring me at his Excellency's request to be careful in keeping it from the Indians, and only to publish it in case the War should go on; The war being now ended, I thought that the best use to which I could employ it, was to transmit it to General Washington, by the return of his own Express — and I hope his Excellency will not disapprove of my having done so —

I am with regard
Sir
Your most Obedient &
Most Humble Servant
Allan Maclean

Inclosure

Capt Mathews —

Turn over —

In the Extract of his Excellency General Haldimands Letter of the 7th February which I sent to General Washington, I left out the word Rebels. and inserted the word Americans, and instead of saying, "that it is not in my Power to afford them "that assistance they so reasonably expect & require "from Government &c. so situated &c. I have inserted. "that it is not in my Power at this season to afford them that assistance they so reasonably expect & require from Government, it however becomes our duty &c

I did not like to convey any idea to Mr Washington, that the our situation was such as put it out of the Power of our Comander in Chief, to sent them the Assistance required, had Not the season of the year Prevented it, Should his Excellency overlook this small alteration say nothing about it; Should he find it out, you will beg to make my Apology for the reasons I have mentioned Yours &c

Allan Maclean

From 1793.

B. Lieut. Col. Musham

5th Regt. Regt. 23rd

Chicago

Contd in Book C (No 1) folio 82

Captain Matthews

Sir —  Niagara 5th May 1783 — 

Of this date I have drawn upon your Excellency in favour of Mr. Philip Steadman for the sum of Two thousand seven hundred and two pounds Six Shillings New York Currency, on account of His Majesty's Service On the Carrying Place of Niagara, from the 6th March 1782 to the 5th March 1783 both days inclusive; and I have the honor herewith to transmit to your Excellency Mr. Philip Steadmans Account —

I have the honor to be most respectfully

Your Excellency's

Most Obedient and

Most Humble Servant —

Allan MacLean —

General Haldimand.

Copy of a Letter from Major
Wells (comm.) and Pt Nelson at
the Falls of Ohio dated May
the 4th 1793

N.º 2.

Sir —

Niagara 5th May 1783

On the 3d Instant three Oneida Indians arrived here Express from General Washington from Newburgh, with a Letter to me from this General, which Letter with its Several inclosures, together with a Copy of my Letter to General Washington, I have the honor to transmit to your Excellency, hoping, & trusting that you may not disapprove of what I have written to General Washington, by the return of his Express.

I do Confess the Letter is a long one, but I apprehended, that it was my duty to Vindicate the Indians from the many Groß & false aspersions laid to their charge; and in doing this, that I should only be complying with your Excellencys wishes, and intentions respecting the Indians. — Colonel Butler tells me he has wrote to Sir John requesting earnestly that he would come up immediately. I have granted leave of absence to Brigade Major Dunbar to settle some private family affairs. This I granted the more readily, as I had no use for him here, and might be easily spared.

I have the honor to be most respectfully

Your Excellency's
Most Obedient and
most Humble servant
Allan Maclean

General Haldimand

From L

1764

Brigadier Gen.l Haldimand
to the Sec.y May Aug.t 28.th

with Instructions —

Niagara 6

Entd in Book C (No 1) folio 79

Sir Niagara 5th Octr 1782

You will no doubt recollect, that some time ago, you sent me an Albany News Paper; publishing the Most Diabolical falsehood that ever entered into the head, or heart of the most Villanous person under the sun, and desiring me at his Excellencys request to be careful in keeping it from the Indians, and only to publish it in case the war should go on; The war being now Ended, I thought that the best use to which I could employ it, was to transmit it to General Washington, by the return of his own Express — and I hope his Excellency will not disapprove of my having done so —

I am with regard
Sir
Your most Obedient &
most Humble Servant
Allan Maclean

To
Capt Mathews —

Turn over —

Detroit the 6 May 1783

Dear Sir

I yesterday received an Express, and
which last Night the 24th of April informing me that
Major Ross had received information from Mr Gray
Cadet that the Enemy were preparing to detach
Three Hundred Continentals from their army at
Kentucky, and that he thought they would attempt
against Oswego — But this Morning arrived
the Express with Letters from the Brigadier
inclosing a Proclamation of Peace — You
will see the Propriety of restraining the Indians
from hostilities — I have this Day spoken to the
Hurons, and Chippewas, and sent off Instructions
to Mr DuQuendre by Antoine Chene dit Lent

[illegible] [illegible]

Miamis Rivers — I shall this Day speak to the Kaskaskias, and Chippaways, and send off Instructions to Mr DuQuindre by Antoine Clemonds Dubuclard & Mr Brandotts and Beaubien & Mr Miamies, and Detroiters — I make not the least doubt but you will exert yourself amongst the Savage Nations in your District

It is to be hoped that a short time will bring accounts from Genl Hamtramck signifying that the terms of Peace are, in the onset how we must set upon our Mettle and smoke or at most die no more than keep a look out for our own Security. A letter from Genl Hamtramck, still recommends his

former

218. -1-

to run instructions in the strongest terms — Let
us beg nothing upon ourselves. —— I have
received Instructions from St. John Johnson
to go to Long Sault — and may stay there
a Parliamentation to reach Quebec — Soon I shall
have see Ren'd you some other opportunity.

I have the honour to be Sir
Your most Humble Obed't Serv't.
J. J. DeLéry

[ARCHIVES PUBLIQUES PUBLIC RECORDS CANADA]

To
Lt. Col. McRae Esq'r
Dep't Superintendent Indian Affairs Montreal

ARCHIVES PUBLIQUES PUBLIC ARCHIVES CANADA

A. L. DeLeyster

E. T. Wilkes Esqr

Y. Agent for Indian Affairs - Lennoxville

P. S. Please to give my Compts to Mr Elliot
How is he to get his Prisoners
redeemed from the Indians.

(No. 30)

Quebec 7th May 1783.

Sir

I did myself the honor to write to You a few Weeks ago by an Express thro' the Woods to Halifax acquainting You with the State of the Province at that time and of an unsuccessful attempt which a detachment of the Continental Troops under a Colonel Willet, had made to surprise Oswego. I had conceived Hopes from that Enterprize that the Enemy had despaired of getting possession of that important Post by the Negotiations which were carrying on for Peace.

On the 26th of last Month I received from Sir Guy Carleton a Copy of your Letter to Him accompanying His Majesty's Proclamation, and I have transmitted it to the Officer commanding the different Posts under my Command. I received at the same time a printed Copy of the Preliminaries of Peace, certified to be correct by Sir Guy Carleton's Secretary. I have communicated it to the Merchants at Montreal, who being chiefly concerned in the

The Right Honorable Thomas Townshend.

Sir

Fur Trade are more immediately interested in the
Event, and whose Conduct in the management of the
Business might be guided by a knowledge of the
Limits assigned to the Provinces in the Preliminaries
The Minds of the People are much alarmed at the
Idea of abandoning the Posts in the Upper Country,
which are no less necessary to their Security than
to their Commerce. — My own anxiety at present
arises from an apprehension of the effects which
the Preliminaries will have upon the Minds of our
Indian Allies, who will consider themselves
abandoned to the resentments of an ungenerous
and implacable Enemy, and who in the expectation
of their present Succours are at no pains to conceal
their designs against them.

Foreseeing that if the War continued
the Indian Country would be the Theatre of it,
I last Summer exerted every Nerve in throwing
a great supply of Provisions and military Stores
into the Upper Posts. I wait therefore with the
greatest Impatience for dispatches from England

I likewise hope that I shall then have it in my
power to acquaint your Indians Allies with the 121.
favourable Intentions of His Majesty for their future
Peace and Welfare. — In the mean time, I propose
to send Parties composed of Surveyors & People to examine
the North side of Lake Ontario and the Grand, or
Outaouas River, so that I may be enabled to make the
most of these Places for the advantages of Communica-
tion, in case that Limits of the Province should be the same
in the definitive Treaty, as in the Preliminaries. —

I beg, Sir, that You will assure
His Majesty that nothing shall be left undone
by me which I think can promote the Good of
the People whom he has entrusted to my care.

The foregoing Letter goes by a
Merchant Vessel to Halifax. I did not intend to
have written by such an uncertain Conveyance
were I not that I wish to give the Lords Commissioners
of His Majesty's Treasury early Information of some
Embarrassments which Mr. Cochrane, Agent for
the Remittance of the Public Money has created to

me at

Dr. Gustetter

Amerham
1783.
per Stockmann
£ 30

Conclusion of a Speech delivered in a Council
held at Niagara the 1st. April with the Six
Nation Indians; addressed to Sir John Johnson,
and transmitted to His Excellency General Sir Dimas.
by Brigadier General Maclean.

Some reasons lately arrived at this
Post, inform us that a Peace is nearly on a Conclusion.
In that case, we hope, and rely on You as the
Father of all Indians on this Island, that we
may not be forgotten, but be included with
Yourselves in such a manner as will be for
both our Interests.—

Delivered a Belt of Wampum.

(Copie)

Invoice of the Indian Presents
sent to Detroit Under the
care of Capt. Bird

Niagara 5th May 1783

Sir

Niagara the 9th May 1783

I am honored with Your Excellencys Letters of the 21st 24th and two of the 26 April, and shall pay Particular Attention to the Contents; with respect to the Boundaries. Alas! they were perfectly well known on the 23d April to Every Ranger in Colonel Butlers Corps, a Sergeant & three men of that Corps, had been all Winter within 15 miles of Washingtons Army, the Sergeant a very intelligent Man, had daily Access to see the American Papers, and brought in several Papers Containing all the Articles; few of the Indians know it, but there are some that do, however we shall Endeavour to follow Your Excellencys directions and if possible, Keep them in Good Humour. Capt. Joseph Brant, the chief fellow, and who has been a faithfull Active Subject to the King, has been the most troublesome, because he is better instructed & Much more intelligent than any other Indian, a few days ago, he proposed to me to go to Canada to see Sir John Johnson, I with pleasure Accepted the proposall, and he sailed from Heneu two days ago, he is a good fellow And I believe he is perfectly satisfied with my Conduct to the Indians. In my Letter to Major Ross, (Copy of which I had the honor to transmit to Your Excellency) An Account of the Alarm from Sir Guy Carletons I told him I did not believe the Intelligence, and in two days after Sergeant Walker came in from near Washingtons Army, and assured me there was no truth in it, that to his certain knowledge they were dismissing their troops

General Haldeimand

And

And that General Carletons Spies imposed upon him,
this false alarm however had very near produced
some very Serious Attacks upon the frontiers —

When I received your Excellencys Letter about
forwarding the Merchandize, I immediatly put a
totall Stop to forwarding Kings Stores or Provisions
and discontinued all Public Works, and sent an
Express to Fort Erie for that Purpose — I shall pay
particular Attention to Investigate Colonel Guy
Johnsons Account, With respect to the Wine, Tea,
Sugar & Soap &c for Indians: I believe Captain Brant
will be able to give some information about it, he is gone to
Canada. I am astonished that we have not as yet
had any Vessel from Detroit. The Merchandize
Shall be forwarded with all possible dispatch
The Seneca that brought your last dispatches, is not
yet come in, the Wind being Contrary, but we got
the Letters and Passengers I have got on Shore in a
boat last Night —

I have the honor to be most respectfully
Your Excellencys
Most Obedient and
Most Humble Servant
Allan Maclean

A 1783

From

Brigad.r Gen.l Maclean

Wh.f 1.st May Rec.d 2.d

Sir — Niagara 10th May 1783

101

Of this date I have Drawn upon Your Excellency for the Sum of Two Hundred and Eight pounds Seven Shillings New York Currency payable to the Order of Mr. Simon Macteavit Merchant Montreal, which Your Excellency will please honor, the Bills with the Commissarys Certificates are sent to Mr. Macteavit for two hundred & Sixty One Gallons Rum a half of Rum This Rum Bargain has been of considerable Loss to the Original Owner of the Rum, he sold 1600 Gallons, his Rum in Rotation had been sent to Detroit, and brought back Again to Niagara from Fort Schlosser and the whole Rejected afterwards by the Comanissary, as not of a sufficient Quality, Except the 231½ Gallons, and now lies Unsold, but this was wholly Owing to the Conduct of a Mr. Sheet Merchant here who had the Charge of the Rum, but whatever might have been the quality, had it gone to Detroit it would have sold well, for it was only four Gallons & a half Upon Every hundred Gallons below the Standard proof — Colonel Dundass however can safely Saw that he was not to blame for any Loss the Owner Mr. Macteavis may meet with

General Haldimand

by

Duplicate /

Mr. Simon Mac Tavish's

acct. agst.

His Commissary General

£208. 7s. 0d Sterling

Sir Niagara 11th May 1783.

We shall be greatly in want of Rum here in 14 days, and I am resolved at the hazard of my to obey the Orders received from your Excellency on that Head, we have been Under a Necessity of giving Something more in the Rum Issues to the Indians the last Fortnight, I am afraid to stop Them in the Rumour, and upon the whole I fear we shall be Indeed but for Hamilton and Cartwright we should have been in a disagreeable Situation for want of Rum, they lent us 1800 Gallons, by which they Must be Considerable Losers now, for as we have none to pay them till it Comes from Canada, the Market will be overstocked, and to my knowledge they could have Sold it here last February at twenty Shillings N. York Currency per Gallon, yet they lent, when every other Merchant refused, except we bought — Last Week Mr. Hamilton & Cartwright Waited upon me, and represented, that, seeing Government had no Rum at Carleton Island, and that they could not be paid their 1800 Gallons for Some time, that they hoped, that in Justice they had a right to Claim, that a Quantity of Dry goods Equal in Bulk & Weight, to the Rum they were to have from Government might be Shipped for them at Carleton Island, So as not to Loose the Market for both, and that when the Rum of Government Came to the Island, they would Order their Correspondent

General Haldimand

&c

to receive the Rum on the Island, and only send it here in Rotation, and by that means, none of the Merchants would have any reason to think that they had got any preference, since had the Rum for Government been upon the Island, it must have been sent in preference to all Merchandize, and they then on its arrival here would be repaid their 1800 Gallons, and it would now be at Fort Erie —

The request of these Gentlemen I truely thought so Just & reasonable that I immediately Agreed to it, and I flatter myself that Your Excellency will not disapprove of this act of Justice, for I truely think it so, and I must add, that there was no kind of Goods in the Store of Hamilton & Cartwright, that was not given to Government, when wanted, to be returned in kind —

The Indian Officers that have resided at the Indian Villages for some time we dare not remove, for fear of Creating disagreeable Suspicions, we have Exchanged them as far as we had proper persons to supply their place; and will go on in discontinuing them, as fast as Circumstances will permit; three of them I was obliged to send to Niagara to attend a Court of Inquiry upon the Conduct of Captain Fire — The Indians at present are quiet, and really behave well, but I hope Sir John will appear soon

I have the Honor to be respectfully

Your Excellencys —

Most Faithfull and

Most Obedient Servant

Wm Hallan —

1813.

From

B. Gen.l Maclean

11.th May. Rec.d 25.th

By Q.r Master.

Sir — Niagara 12th May 1788 —

Major Hayes Applied to me, to get the detachment of the 34th Regiment at Oswego brought here, he shewed me a Letter from Captain Churchill from Oswego, wherein it said, that Major Ross says he has no use for them, so that if your Excellency has no Objection, that detachment of 40 men, will come and join their Companies, so soon I have your permission —

The 84th will now soon be reduced, and they also have a detachment at Oswego, I should be much oblig'd to your Excellency to permit that detachment to go to the Island to Major Harris —

Major Potts arrived here from Detroit late last night, every thing very quiet there, I have the honor to transmit your Excellency a Copy of Major Depeyster's Letter to me, which will give you every information necessary, the Indian Presents for Detroit and Michilemakina Arrived at Detroit the day Major Potts left it, but they are much in Want of Rum there as at Makina, we are still Worse of here, tho we have only Expended 98 Gallons Rum last Month, which I hope your Excellency will think a large diminution in that Article, but we have none now, I am sure there have been great abuses in Rum as at all the Posts —

I have the honor to be most respectfully
Your Excellency's
Most Humble & most obed.
Servant —
Allan Maclean

General Haldimand

1780.

From

B. Gen.l Maclean

12th May - Rec.d 25th.

By Capt. Montgomery

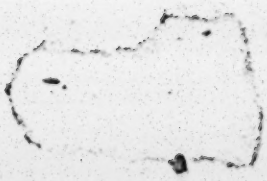
Sir Niagara 15th May 1783

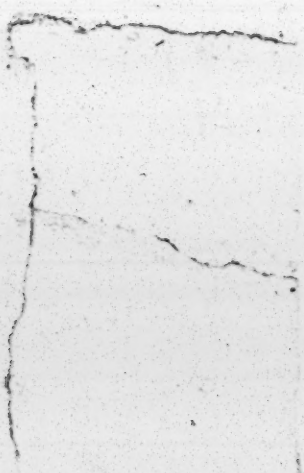
Upon serious Consideration, I am of Opinion it Would be good Policy to keep Captain Brant in Canada for some time, in the mean time to get him to write a letter to his friends David Aaron that they are not to be forgot, for Joseph knows too much and too little, his a good fellow in the main, he is a perfect Indian, and after all the News & intelligence he would fetch us in Canada some true, & some false, his returning here, might be attended with bad Consequences, and I might be able to prevent any Conference with the Western Indians like he is returned, if he could be got to write like, he had Concerted Matters with his Excellency in the mean time, Sir John Ought to come up, and might set out while Brant was at Quebec, these are my ideas, for Joseph told me England had Sold the Indians to Congress and there people will by & by pretend to do Something Very Outrageous, in Order to retaliate our Conduct to them, & ingratiate themselves with Congress, But Sir I may be mistaken in my ideas, indeed I hope I am, if we Could Keep the Mohawks in humour I think the others might follow their Example I am Sir

Your most Obedient Sert

Allan Maclean

Captain Mathews





On His Majesty's Service

Captain R. Mathews —
Secretary to the Comonander in Chief

Lubbock

Sir — Niagara 18 May 1785 —

This morning I received the inclosed in a Short Note from Major Depeyster, and tho I think it of no great Consequence, or believe the Report, yet I think it my duty to transmit it to your Excellency —

We have got a large Quantity of Naval Stores here that Came up two Days last fall to be forwarded to Detroit, a quantity of them lies now at Fort Erie, & the rest at Fort Schlosser, there is likewise a great Quantity of Ingineers Stores that Came from the Island in Batteaux, lately they are all at Fort Schlosser, the Perishable Articles we have put under Cover. I should be glad to know your Excellency pleasure respecting them. I have bought no more Indian Corn, but the 3200 bushells I reported to your Excellency before; and will not till I have further orders.

Lieut Brown and Capt. David had resolved to go and settle at Genesee but they have Stopt, Unless Capt. Brant returns from Canada's, however Every thing is Very quiet at present, and I hope will remain so provided we can get some Rum & Indian presents and I hope Sir John Johnson will Appear Soon

I have the honor to be very respectfully

Your Excellency's
Most Obedient and
most Humble Servant
Allan Maclean

General Haldiman

I had almost Neglected to Mention to your Excellency, that a Mr. Thomson arrived here two days ago Sent by Sir John Johnson, as the Sole Manager of all Indian presents, the Orders he received from Sir John I take the Liberty of Transmiting a Copy of to your Excellency, because it appears to me, that a Part, of these Instructions runcounter to part of the General Instructions Issued by your Excellency at Quebec on the 6th of last February Sir John's Instructions to Mr. Thomson, Says "that "He is not by any means to Suffer Officers, or Others to "interfere in the management of the Store, or in the distri "bution of presents, Cloathing or liquor &c. In your Excellencys General Instructions, in the third article: as follows— "It being the Kings pleasure that the "Commanding Officers at the Posts, and Officers of the "Garrison, Should be present at all Conferences, and when "presents are distributed to Indians. they are particularly directed to attend on those occasions." - Sir John Instruction as I conceive them, Contradicts this part of the General Instructions" and if that is the case I believe that the Consumption of Rum will again increase. I am Sure I have no wish or Inclination to have any thing to do with Indian affairs, but on the Contrary, I Shall be happy to be relieved from any thing of the Kind, I know that Sir Johns friends have adopted an idea that Sir John was absolute in his department, and it was upon that groun I am Sure the Kings Store Suffered So Much under the absolute management of Mr. Deane in October & November last I Shall be glad to have your Excellencys directions on this Head, particularly as Sir John is much wanted by the Indians, to come here, and indeed that he ought to come is my Sincere Opinion.

I

J this Moment had a Message from Colonel Butler letting me that Captain Aaron and Capt. David the two Principals Mohaw Chiefs had been with him, letting him that they had a message from the Western Indians, desiring them to send some of their People to Consult with them on the present Situation of their affairs; And that Captain Aaron wanted to go himself. As J knew perfectly that they Neither had or could have any such Message, the Proposal J thought a dangerous One; in every respect; and J sent Word to Colonel Butler that J was much surprised that he had not discountenanced it on the Spot; and sent him that the Western Indians had not at this Moment had no Intelligence of a Peace, that Captain Brant was gone to Canada to see your Excellency & Sir John, with their Consent and Approbation, that they must wait till he came back, with Sir John, and by that time we should know much more than we know do, and that it would then be full time to send an Embassy from them to the western Indians, J thought it highly Essential to Acquaint Your Excellency with these particulars, that while Capt. Brant is below, Steps may be taken to prevent if Possible such Conferences as Something may be hatched that might be very detrimental to the Kings Service at this Crisis - Captain Brant coming Back in Good humour will have a good Effect, in the mean time Nothing Shall be left undone by me to prevent any kind of Communications. & J Should not be Surprised, if most of our own Indian Officers Should help to foment Mischief, and on that Account, J apprehend any farther reform Among them would be a dangerous

Experiment

Experiment, for some time longer, believing as I do that they are all discontented and much displeased, at the situation in which they must be in soon

I have the honor to be with great Truth
Your Excellency's
Most Obedient &c
most Humble Servant
Allan Maclean

1783

Answer
B. Genl. Allan Maclean
13th May. R. 25th
By Col. Brannan

Detroit the 17 May 1783

Sir

I have received your several letters by the Felicity and Hope, and have acted in every respect agreeable to your Commands.

As the News Paper you are pleased to mention is not come on further than Fort Erie, it will not be in my power to propagate the Contents — but believe me Sir, there is not a person in Detroit who does not confidently talk of the boundaries —

Captain Grant writes to you by this opportunity and gives you his reasons why a Vessel did not come Detroit — so soon as you expected. — One half of the Michilimakinac presents and

Shawanee Town May 16th 1783

106

I take the first opportunity of informing you, that I have received the Kings Proclamation declaring Peace with France, Spain, Holland, & the United States of America, and have communicated it to those Nations. & tho' I am informed by Major De Peyster that he has sent Druillard to the Hurons, lest he may be stopped or obliged on his way send you this early Notice as it may be the means of stoping any Parties that may be in readiness to go against the Frontiers. you will endeavour to convince them how much it is their Interest to restrain their Young Men & that we may daily expect to hear from the six Nations. who are now busy settling matters with their Father

I am Sir
Your most Obt
Hble
Servt

Mr Simon Girty.

PUBLIC ARCHIVES CANADA

1783.

From

B. Gen.l Maclean

to

B. Maj. Rud.dt

Copy

Niagara 16. May 1783

Sir

In obedience to Your Excellency's Commands, I have paid every attention in my Power to the Management and Conduct of Indians, and with the Assistance of Col. Butler, have endeavoured to get every information possible respecting their Ideas and Opinion of the Peace, as generally they are not sufficiently instructed with Respect to the Boundaries, but with Regard to the Peace they seem to be glad of it; they say that they lost many of their best Warriors and best Chiefs, and if England has secured to them their own Country, without involving them in future Disputes with their Neighbours they are pleased with the Peace; but they seem very anxious to know what they have heard of Certain proposed Boundaries, which they neither can agree if true, but they do not believe it. — Your Excellency justly observes that it will require every exertion and attention on our parts, to watch their motions, and endeavour to keep them in Temper — I am however happy to have it in my Power, to inform Your Excellency, notwithstanding what I had the Honor to write you in my last Letter of the 12th Inst. that I have every Reason to believe the Six Nations will act as they have hitherto done, with fidelity, firmness and Moderation; at least will not remain neuter; but I should by no means answer for what they may do, when they see us evacuate these Posts, I should rather then be desirous of some disagreable Scenes; — This Morning I had (at their own request) a Conference with Six of the Principal Chiefs; Capt. Aaron was their Speaker, and he fully explained to me his reasons for Wishing to have an Interview with the Western Indians, and Convinced Colonel Butler and myself that the Six Nations, had no Hostile Views Whatever against us, or the Americans. The real fact is, as they say, that the Oneida Indians sent here by General Washington, had their relations here, One his Mother, another his Wife, and a third his Sister; before they went off, they told their Women that the americans had resolved to Destroy the Six nations, together with the Delawares, Shawnese, and Chalawanese, and Also all the White People that Served with the Indians, particularly Sir John Johnson and Colonel Butler; The Oneida Indians declare, that all this was told them in a Set Speech by General Schuyler when on their Way here with General Washington's Letter. Your Excellency may believe, that I did not give implicit faith to so extraordinary

General Haldimand

a Story

a Story as that General Schuyler Would Express himself & such ignorant People in Terms so harsh and Cruel, Whatever might be his private Sentiments, or that he could wish, & Commence or Seek such Disputes or Troubles & the American States on the Conclusion of a Peace, the Terms of Which, is Certainly beyond their most Sanguine hopes or Expectations — But Whether the Story that has been propagated here by these Indians be true or false, it has Made a very Strong impression on the Minds of the Six Nations; and I am Clear the Intention was & Sett them at Variance With us — The Indians from the Surmises they have heard of the Boundaries, look upon our Conduct to them as treacherous and Cruel; they told me they never could believe that our King could pretend & Cede & america What was not his own & give, That the Americans Would accept from him What he had no right & grant: That upon a representation from the Six Nations, in the Year 1768, The King had appointed Sir William Johnson as Commissioner & Settle the Boundaries between the Indians & the Colonies; That a Line had been drawn from the Head of Canada Creek near Fort Stanwix & the Ohio; That the Boundaries then Settled Were agreable & the Indians & the Colonies, & never had been doubted or disputed Since — That the Indians Were a free People Subject & no Power upon Earth, That they Were the faithful allies of the King of England, but not his Subjects — That he had no right Whatever & grant away & the Lands of others, their Rights or properties Without a manifest breach of all Justice and Equity, and they would not — Submit & it; They added, That Many Years ago, their Ancestors had granted permission & the French King & build trading Houses, or Small Forts on the Waters Communication between Canada & the Western Indians, in the Heart of their Country for the Convenience of Trade Only Without granting one Inch of Land, but What these Forts Stood upon, and that at the End of the last War, they granted Leave & Sir William Johnson & build these Forts for their Ally the King of England, but that it was impossible from that Circumstance Only & imagine, That the King of England Should pretend & grant & the Americans, all the Whole Country of the Indians lying between the Lakes and the fixed Boundaries, as Settled in 1768 between the Colonies and the Indians, or that any Part of it could be Claimed by the Americans, or granted by the English & them, That they had not Wish or inclination & go & War With the English

Their

their Allies, or with the Americans their Neighbours, that their going to War with the latter was because they looked upon them as disobedient Children but at present tho' that War was over, they did not think they had any great Reason to expect any friendship from either Party; they would not be the Aggressors, but they would defend their own just Rights & persist in the Attempt to the last Man. they were but a handful of Innocent People but they would die in the Men, which they thought preferable to Misery & Distress if deprived of their Hunting grounds. — That if it was really true that the English had basely betrayed them by pretending to give up their Country & the Americans Without their Consent, & Considering them, it was an act of Cruelty and injustice that Christians only were capable of doing, that the Indians were incapable of acting so by Friends & Allies, but that they did believe We had sold & betrayed them.

Your Excellency Will look upon this as very Slavish Language, but it is nevertheless true, and exactly as translated & the by the Principal Indian Interpreter at Philadelphia. Sumpb my Duty & Respect to & Your Excellency for their Information. upon the Whole however, I don't think away Apprehensions, by assuring them that their friends the Oneidas had deceived them; that the States of America seem suppressing the Boundaries & Limits Reported & them by the Oneidas, never Would act so much Contrary & their own Interest, as to quarrel with them Wantonly, or go to War about some Miles of a Desert, and risk loosing a Number of their own People for the Sake of distressing them, that such an Action Would render them infamous & all the World, and that if such an Attempt Was Made, that did assure them, I, with all the Kings Troops, should stand by them at all risques whatever Might be the Consequences, and that I was sure my Conduct will meet with Your approbation — This pleased them very much, but they still insisted that the King had no right to give away Forts built in the Heart of their Country, without consulting them, or including them in the Peace, but leaving them to the Mercy of their Enemies & His Enemies; a Conduct that Was Scandalous & dishonorable to the English — they were much cast down, they said they Wished much to hear from you by the Mouth of Sir John Johnson. how soon you heard from England, till then they Would be quiet & silent, nor Would they send any Deputies to the Western Indians, that you at all Times treated them Well, and had been a true friend to them, and had always kept your Word With them and therefore they had great Confidence in Your Exertions, but they still

intreat

earliest that when Sir John Johnson comes up here, that You will be pleased to send to General Washington, that General Schuyler may be directed to come to this Place or Oswego, to have a Conference with Sir John, that they may know before these Lists are given up, what Terms they are to expect from the Americans, or Whether or not they are to be allowed to keep Peaceable possession of their own Country Unmolested, that they Will give Assurances that they Will be Peaceable good Neighbours, that if the Americans Mean to act fairly, they cannot refuse so reasonable a request, and that they hope Your Excellency Will so far enter into their Just demand as do this last act of friendship, as a poor unfortunate People that have ruined themselves & risked their all to support the King of England — I can with truth assure Your Excellency that as near as I could take it down from the Interpreter, that this is literally the Extent & Meaning of the Conference I had with the Six Chiefs, no person present but Colonel Butler & the Interpreter — I must also inform Your Excellency that this horrid report I spread by the Oneidas has occasioned a Number of the Delawares & quit Buffalo Creek already and Cross at Fort Erie and go to the grand River 50 Miles beyond Fort Erie, Officers are sent up to endeavour to prevent any more from Emigrating if possible.

I should Wish that Captain Brant might be detained in Canada for some time, he is much better informed & instructed than any other Indians, he is strongly attached to the Interest of his Country men for which I do honor him, but he would be so much more sensible of the Miserable Situation in which we have left this unfortunate People, that I do believe he would do great deal of Mischief here at this Time, I do from My Soul Pity these People, and should they Commit Outrages at giving up these Posts, it would by no means surprize Me.

I have the Honor &c &c &c

(Signed) Allan Maclean

N.B. The original Deed
which is in the Custody
of Samuel Hyde Esq. Town
Clerk of London 29. July –
Lib. Rubrik C (170) fol 21

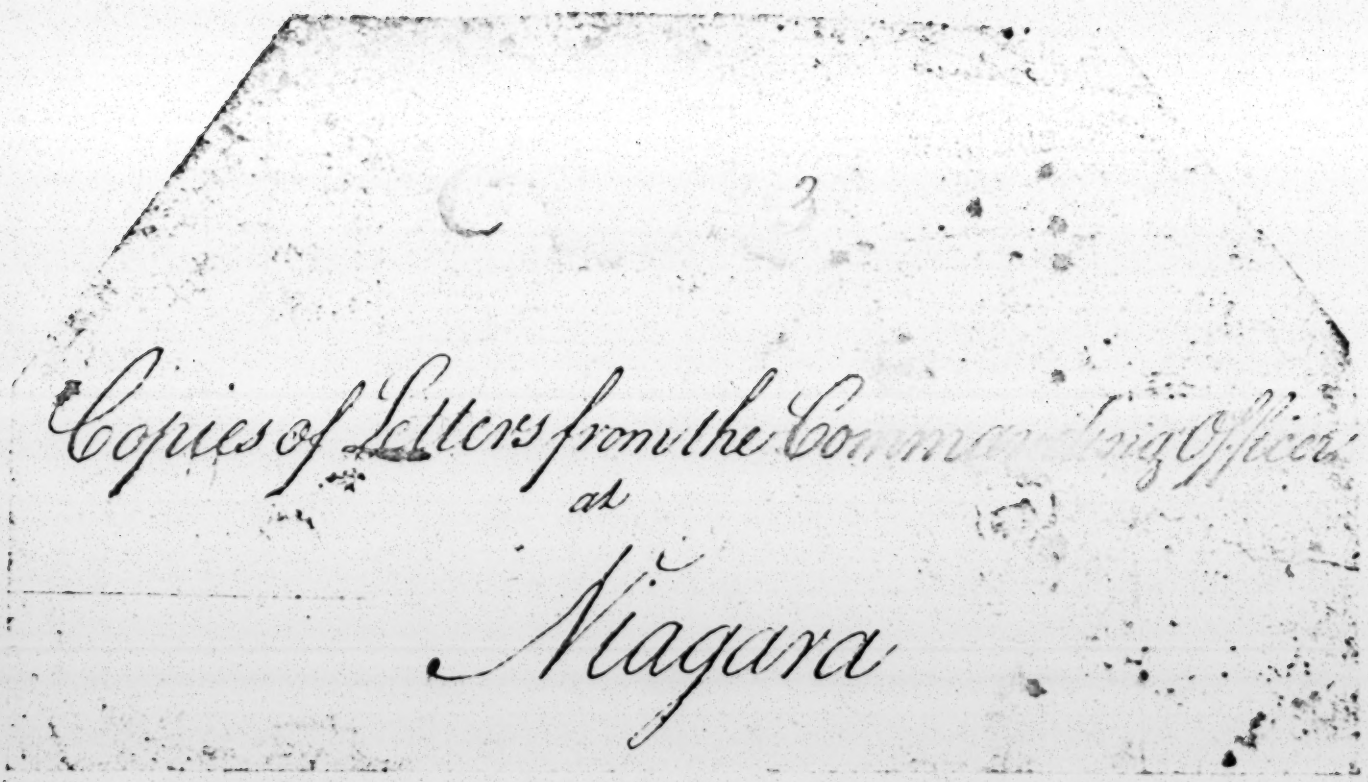
Albany May 19th 1783

As Hannibal swore never to be at Peace with the Romans, so let every Whig swear — by the abhorence of Slavery — by Liberty and religion — by the shades of those departed Friends who have fallen in battle — by the ghosts of those our Brethren who have been destroyed on board of Prisonships and in loathsome dungeons — by the graves of our Fathers and other virtuous Citizens whose lives have been wantonly destroyed — by every thing that a freeman holds dear — never to be at peace with those fiends the Refugees, whose thefts, Murders, and treasons, have filled the cup of woe; but shew the world that we prefer War, with all it's dreadful calamities, to giving those self destroyers of the human species a residence among us. — We have crimsond the earth with our blood to purchase peace, therefore are determined to enjoy harmony unin=terrupted with the contaminating breath of a Tory.

At a Meeting of the Inhabitants of the District of Saratoga (in the County of Albany) held on Tuesday the 6th day of May 1783, the following Resolutions were unanimously voted, and ordered to be published in the New York Gazettes.

Whereas, in the course of the late glorious contest for liberty and independence, many Persons residing in this, and other of the United States, regardless of their duty, have basely deserted the cause of their Country, and volun=

tarily


Copies of Letters from the Commanding Officer
at
Niagara

Augt 1
138

# Continuation of the Niagara Letters

B.G. Maclean
to
Gn. Haldimand.

Niagara 18th May 1783

Sir,

In obedience to Your Excellency's Commands, I have paid every attention in my power to the Management and Conduct of Indians, and with the assistance of Colonel Butler, have endeavoured to get every information possible respecting their Ideas and Opinions of the Peace. At present they are not sufficiently instructed with respect to the Boundaries, but with regard to the Peace they seem to be glad of it, they say that they lost many of their ablest Warriors and best Chiefs, and if England has secured to them their own Country, without involving them in fresh disputes with their Neighbours they are pleased with the Peace, but they say they to be very Anxious to know what they have heard of Certain pretended Boundaries, to which they never can agree if true, but they do not believe it. Your Excellency justly observes, that it will require every exertion & attention on our parts, to watch their Motions, and Endeavour to keep them in temper — I am however happy to have it in my power, to inform your Excellency, notwithstanding of what I had the Honor to Write you in my last Letters of the 12th and 13th Instant that I have every reason to believe the Six Nations will act as they have hitherto done, with fidelity, firmness and Moderation; at least while we remain here; but I would by no means answer for what they may do, when they see us Evacuate these Posts, & I should rather then be apprehensive of some disagreeable Scenes; — This morning I had (at their own request) a Conference with Six of the Principal Chiefs; Captain Aron was the Speaker, and he fully explained to me his reasons for wishing to have an Interview with the Western Indians, and Convinced Colonel Butler and myself that the Six Nations had

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not inclosed in
to Lord North
Lre No 1 by 4th
Day 29th June

Rec'd by the
4th 29 July

no

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I have the honor to be &c.

(Signed) Allan Maclean

Inclosure to the foregoing letter to Lord Sydney the 2d June (No 1)

A Translation of a Speech delivered to His Excy General Haldimand &c. &c. &c. — by Captain Joseph Brant alias Thayendanegea in behalf of the Six United Nations of Indians their allies and Dependants, since the Conquest of Canada on the Continent have United themselves with the Six Nations whom they stile (a Distinction of Superiority) their Uncles. — said Captain Brant being sent Express from Niagara to Quebec at the earnest Request of said Nations upon their hearing of a Peace being concluded between the King of England and his Subjects the Americans, arrived at Quebec 25th May 1783.

1st

1st ---- After the Usual introductory Salutation Capt. Brant spoke as follows

Brother Asharekowa and representative of the King!

The Sachems and War Chieftains of the Six United Nations of Indians and their Allies have heard that the King their Father has made peace with his Children the Bostonians, (by Bostonians the Indians distinguish the Americans in Rebellion as it first began in Boston) and when they heard of it, they found that they were forgot and no mention made of them in said peace. Wherefore they now have sent me to inform themselves before you, of the real Truth whether it is so or not that they are not partakers of that peace with the King and the Bostonians.

2d Brother Listen with great attention to Our Words!

We were greatly alarmed and Cast down when we heard that News, and it occasioned great discontent and surprize with our People, wherefore tell us the whole and real Truth from your heart, and we beg that the King will be put in Mind by you and recollect what we have been when this people first saw us, and what we since have done for him & his Subjects.

3d Brother, We the Mohawks were the first Indian Nation that took you by the hand like Friends and Brothers, and invited you to live amongst us treating you with Kindness upon your Debarkation in small parties. The Oneidas our Neighbours were equally well disposed towards you, And as a mark of our Sincerity & Love towards you we fastened your Ship to a great Mountain at Onandago the Center of our confederacy, the rest of the five Nations approving of it; we were then a great people, conquering all Indian Nations round about us, and you encreased by Degrees, and we continued your Friends and Allies joining you from time to time against your Enemies, sacrificing Numbers of our people, and leaving their Bones scattered in your Enemys Country at last we assisted you in conquering all Canada; And thereagain for joining you so firmly & faithfully you renewed your assurances of protecting and defending ourselves Lands and possessions against any Encroachments whatsoever, procuring us the Enjoyment of a fair and plentifull Trade of your people and sit contented under the shade of the Tree of peace, blasting the Fame & Friendship of a great Nation bound to us by Treaty, and able to protect us against all the World.

1st

4th. Brother; You have Books & Records of our mutual Treaties and Engagements, which will confirm the Truth of what I have been telling, & as we are unacquainted with the Art of writing we keep it fresh in our Memory by Belts of Wampum deposited in our Council House at Onandago We have also received an Ornament for the head viz: (a Crown) from her late Majesty Queen Anne, as a Token of her mutual & unalterable Friendship & Alliance with us and our Confederacy, Wherefore wee on our Side have maintained an Uninterrupted Attachment towards you in confidence & Expectation of a Reciprocity, and to establish a perpetual Friendship & Alliance between Us, of which we can give you several Instances, to Wit when a few Years after the Conquest of Canada, your people in this Country thought themselves confined on account of their Numbers, with regard to a scarcity of Land, we were applied to for giving up some of Ours, and fix a line or mark between them &c. We considered upon it, and relinquished a great Territory to the King for the use of his Subjects, for a trifling Consideration merely as a Confirmation of said Act, and as a proof of our sincere Regard towards them, this happened so late as the year 1768. at Fort Stanwix, and was gratefully accepted & ratified by the different Governors & great Men of the respective Colonies on the Sea Side, in presence of our late Worthy Friend and Superintendant Sir William Johnson, whereon we expected a permanent Brotherly Love, & Amity would be the Consequence, but in vain! The insatiable Thirst for Power was the next Object of satisfaction to the King's Subjects on the Sea Coast, and they to blind our Eyes, sent Priests from New England amongst Us whom we took for Messengers of peace, but we were surprizingly undeceived when we found soon after that they came to sow the Seeds of Discord among our people, in order to Alienate our antient Attachmt & Alliance from the King our Father and join them in Rebellion against Him, and when they stood up against Him they first endeavoured to ensnare Us the Mohawks and the Indians of the six Nations living on the Susquehanna River, and the Oneidas, by which Division they imagined the Remainder of the Confederacy would soon follow, but to no the least Effect; About this sad period we lost our greatest Friend Sir William Johnson. Notwithstanding which we were Unalterably determined to stick to our Antient Treaties with the Crown of England, and when the Rebells attempted to insult the Families of the Descendants

of

of our late Superintendant, on whom the Management of our Affairs devolved we stuck to and protected them as much as in our power, conducting them to Canada with a determined Resolution inviolably to adhere to our Alliance, at the Risque of Lives, Families & property; The rest of the six Nations finding the Firmness & Steadiness of us the Mohawks and Aughquagas followed our Example and espoused the King's Cause to this present Instant

It is as I tell you Brother, and would be too tedious to repeat on this present Occasion the many proofs of Fidelity we have given the King our Father.

Wherefore Brother I am now sent in behalf of all the King's Indian Allies to receive a decisive Answer from you, and to know, whether they are included in his Treaty with the Americans as faithful Allies should be or not: and whether those hands which the great Being above has pointed out for our Ancestors & their Descendants, & placed them there from the Beginning, and where the Bones of our Forefathers are laid is secured to them: or whether the Blood of their grand Children is to be mingled with their Bones, thro' the means of Our Allies for whom we have often so freely bled—

Gave a large belt of Wampum.

5th Brother

We likewise understand that there is a great Clamour in England about the great Expence Government was put to in the Support of Our Alliance with the King; If these matters Brother were duely & strictly examined into it would be found upon an Estimate of what We and our Families have received from Government, that perhaps not one fourth part was delivered to us of what was charged to the Crown which we beg may be fairly considered, and the Blame taken off our Shoulders, it being a great Injury to us—

We beg Brother you will communicate this Speech to the King with all Dispatch possible—

Niagara 17th June 1783

From Brig.r Gen.l Maclean to Gov.r Haldimand

Sir

Two days ago I received a Letter from General Lincoln President of the Board of War to the United States, Copy of which I have the honour herewith to transmit to your Excellency, together with a Copy of my Answer to General Lincoln. And I hope your Excellency will not disapprove of what I wrote to General Lincoln. Mr Bull mentioned

In

In Mr Lincoln's Letter is a poor old Moravian, who declares, he was no farther a Messenger or Ambassador for Congress, than that to induce them to grant him a Pass, he undertook to deliver the Letter, that his Son and daughter had been put to death in the Massacre of the Moravian Indians at Fort Pitt by Colonel Davidson, and that all those left alive, of these very Unfortunate People, are now settled about 20 Miles beyond Detroit, and their Clergymen have joined them, and that he, old Bull, and his Companion also a Moravian wish to go and remain in Peace with their friends & Brethren, but never again shall they go within reach of Congress or their Frontiermen, that they will first retire beyond Hudson's Bay, Mr Bull and his Companion who seem to be two Harmless very old men I shall keep here till I hear from your Excellency, and they shall be well treated, tho' I believe I might let them proceed to Detroit, as Colonel Butler joins me, about 200 of the Indians & Moravians, deserted from about Bethlem after the Massacre at fort Pitt, and are settled, at about 20 or 30 Miles beyond Detroit.

In case your Excellency may not have seen them, I take the liberty of sending you some very late Publications from the Albany Papers, they are a great Curiosity, and Clearly prove the temper and disposition of those Americans, a few more Resolves like those of Saratoga will soon Sett a War a going again, There I believe is very little doubt, but that General Schuyler is the principal person concerned in those infamatory Publications, he has been a Large Purchaser of the Confiscated Estates of the Loyalists.

I have the Honor to be &c.

(Signed) Allan Maclean

Inclosures to the foregoing Letter

from Ephraim Douglass to J. Maclean

Niagara 16th July 1783

Sir

After having already so freely communicated to you my Instructions from the Secretary of War — the resolve of Congress whereon they were founded — my wishes in obedience to these Instructions, and my earnest desire of an opportunity of communicating them to the Chiefs of the Indian Nations: a repetition of any part thereof would now be useless as improper; But that my Character may be defended

from the

from the imputation of irresolution, negligence, or want of alacrity in the execution of my duty, I take the liberty to request that you will favour me in writing with your reasons for declining to suffer me to assemble the Chiefs and to make known to them the Message I am charged with by the United States. — And from the personal civilities I have already received, as well as from my opinion of your Character, I flatter myself that you will readily grant me this request.

I am with all possible respect &c.

(Signed) Ephraim Douglass

Niagara 16th July 1783

Sir,

I am favoured with your Letter of this date, in Answer to which I am to inform you, that it is my wish, and I believe that of every officer in his Majesty's Service, to promote Friendship, Cordiality, and real Reconciliation, between the Subjects of Great Britain and the Citizens of the United States. You die have been obliging, as to deliver me a Copy of your Instructions, together with the Resolves of Congress, upon which they are founded; and I should have been happy to have had it in my power to comply with your Wishes, but Circumstances as I am, in a subaltern Station, it is out of my power to Act otherwise, till I had received the Orders of the Commander in Chief. —

My sentiments on that Subject, I had the honor to Communicate to General Lincoln Secretary at War to the United States by Letter dated 16th May last. — An Additional reason has weighed greatly with me, and rendered it impossible for me to admit the publication of your instructions, (till I had received the orders of my superior) was, that One of them was Conceived in terms, that I judged to be at least unnecessary if not improper, so long as we are in possession of the Upper Posts of Canada, and that it must have been a Reflection on any British Officer who would give his Consent to their being published. — I apprehend that Congress is Unacquainted with the situation in which we stand with respect to the Indians, there are 3000 of them Victualled here daily they in fact are a part of this Garrison, with respect to Provision and Cloathing, and the impression, that the Communication of your Instructions would have upon them, would (in my opinion) bring on disputes

Yours

that might be disagreeable to the Service & the Troops under my Command and for which I should be justly blamed, tho' I had the Sanction of the Commander in Chief —

The Pacific disposition of the United States to the Indian Nations, I did publish to the Indians, the moment I received General Lincoln's Letter, and I shall again repeat the same — You are now acquainted with the Pacific disposition of the Indian Nations, (and how much they wish for Peace and Friendship with the United States; It is true they have been greatly alarmed at the several severe Messages said to be sent them lately from Albany, but, I have endeavored to quiet their Apprehensions on that score. —

I cannot conclude without declaring that I do not think Congress could have Employed any man Better qualified than yourself, to Carry on a Negotiation with the Indian Nations, and I lament that, for the Reasons I have mentioned, that it's out of my power to Act otherwise than I have done till I receive the Commander in Chiefs Orders, which when I do, and have his approbation, I shall communicate to the Commanding Officer of the Troops of the United States in the Northern District —

I have the honor to be &c.
(Signed) Allan Maclean

Gen. Lincoln
To
Wm Douglass Esq.

War Office May 3d 1783

Sir

In pursuance of your appointment as Messenger to the several Indian Nations on the Frontiers of the United States, you will, in the execution of your mission, conform to the Instructions laid down in the resolve of Congress which accompanies this Letter.

You will announce to the different Tribes the Proclamation of Congress and the Articles of Peace — and you will verbally inform the Indians, that the British King has been Compelled to agree to make peace with the United States, That he has fixed the Boundaries between his People and the People of the United States, — That he has agreed to evacuate and deliver up to the United States

the

the Lords O—— N—— D, and all other Parts occupied by him to the Southward of the line agreed upon between this People & the people of the United States.

That all the Tribes and Nations of Indians who live to the South and West of the line agreed upon, must no longer look to the King beyond the Water for Protection, they must now look to the great Council, the Congress of the United States at Philadelphia.

That the great Council of the United States regret that the Indians did not pay due attention to the advice which was given to them at Albany on the beginning of the late quarrel — as if they had listened to that advice, they might have lived in Peace during the War, and would at this time have been exempt from all the ill consequences. In making this intimation you will paint to the Indians the great loss which they have suffered, and the calamities which they have brought upon themselves by their desertion of the cause of Great Britain. You will then inform them that the United States are a compassionate & merciful people — That they are disposed to pity the Indians and to forgive their past folly, on condition that they immediately desist from further hostility, and hereafter conduct themselves as a people disposed to enjoy the blessings of Peace which are now extended to them: But if they hesitate to accept the friendship which is now offered to them, or continue hostilities, they must expect that the United States, who have now no other object to employ the Valour of their Warriors, will take the most severe and examplary vengeance of the Indians. That however they hope there will be no occasion to use threats or proceed to extremities — That the Indians must see it is their Interest, & essential to their happiness to live in peace with the United States and as the United States are disposed to enter into friendly treaty with them, they should immediately put a stop to all hostilities, call in their Warriors, assemble their Council of Wise men, and appoint some of them to meet the Commissioners of the United States at a place to be agreed on, there to agree upon a treaty of Peace and friendship —

As the business of your Mission will be facilitated by taking with you the Emblems of Peace, you will endeavour to

procure

procure all such as may be required in your interviews. You will in the most effectual manner, and with all possible dispatch, endeavor to effect the Completion of this business, in which you will employ such assistance as shall be found indispensably requisite— the strictest Oeconomy governing all your expences.—

You will extend your information to Detroit which place you will visit as soon as your necessary communications on the road will admit. I enclose to you a Letter for the Commanding Officer of that Post.—

Mr. Bull is charged with a similar Commission to the Indians at Oswego and Niagara but in case of accident to him upon it if you should find it necessary make the like communications to those Tribes; in which case, I think you had better return by the Lakes from which place, should circumstances make it necessary, you will draw upon me for your additional expences.

I wish you an agreeable accomplishment of your business, and am, with great regard &c.

Signed/ P: Lineche

From B.G. Maclean
To
Genl Lincoln

Niagara 16 June 1783

Sir,

Yesterday I was favoured with your Letter of the 3d May, Acquainting me, "That Congress had directed you to take "measures for informing the several Indian Nations that the Preliminaries "of Peace had been agreed upon, that Mr. Bull was charged with this "interesting message" and requesting my assistance in case he should experience any difficulty in the Execution of his Commission.—

Please inform Congress, that the Commission with which they have charged Mr. Bull has been fully & Officially executed some time ago by the orders of his Excellency General Haldimand and that Provided the Frontier men of the United States do not molest the Indians, the Indians will give them no trouble.

I had a letter from His Excellency Genl Washington

dated

date 11th April last, on the same Subject with your Letter, which Letter I had the Honor to Answer, which when communicated to Congress I believe will be Satisfactory. ——

I am at a Loss to Conceive what you mean by requesting my assistance to Mr. Bull in Case he should meet with any difficulty in executing his Commission, I cannot suppose that it was the intention of Congress, that he was to be permitted to go to the Indian Country to hold Conferences with the different Indian Nations, or that they would delegate any Commissioner for that Purpose, without having first communicated such intention to the Commander in Chief in Canada. For however ready or willing I might be to pay all due deference to the Wishes of Congress I should look upon my own Conduct as highly improper, was I to permit any delegate or Messenger from them to go into the Indian Country until I have got the Consent and Approbation of the Commander in Chief for that Purpose. I must therefore take it for Granted that the only Commission with which Mr. Bull was meant to be charged by Congress, was the delivering your Letter to me, and when that was done that his Mission was at an end.

I shall immediately transmit a Copy of your Letter to His Excellency General Haldimand, and shall execute such orders as I shall receive from him respecting the Mission of Mr. Bull.

I have the Honor to be Sir Your most Obedt Humble Servt
Allan Maclean

Albany May 19th 1783

As Hanable swore never to be at peace with the Romans, so let every Whig swear — by the abhorrence of Slavery — by Liberty & Religion. by the shades of those departed friends who have fallen in Battle — by the Ghosts of those our Brethren who have been destroyed on Board Prison Ships, and in loathsome dungeons — by the manes of a Mayo and other virtuous Citizens whose lives have been wantonly destroyed — by every thing that a human holds dear never to be at peace with those fiends the Refugees, whose thefts, Murders, & treasons, have filled the Cup of Woe; but shew the World that we prefer War, with all its dreadfull Calamities, to giving those self destroyed of the human species a residence among us — We have crimsoned the earth with our Blood to purchase peace, therefore are determined to enjoy harmony uninterrupted with the contamineating breath of a Tory.

At a meeting of the Inhabitants of the District of Schaghticoke

the

the County of Albany) held on Tuesday the 6th of May 1783, the following Resolutions were unanimously voted, and ordered to be published in the New York Gazette.

Whereas, in the course of the late glorious contest for Liberty and independence, many persons residing in this, and other of the United States, regardless of their Duty, have basely deserted the cause of their Country, and voluntarily joined the Enemy thereof, to aid and assist in subjugating it to Tyranny and Slavery And progressing from one Species of Villainy to another, those diabolical miscreants, became the Voluntary Instruments of those barbarous Massacres in which neither Age, or Sex, or condition were spared, and in which the horrid Spectacle was exhibited, of harmless Infants expiring on the mangled Bodies of their butchered Parents — And Whereas Wretches so disgraced with Infamy and Crimes, ought not to participate of the blessings of a free Government.

Resolved therefore. That if any person who had voluntarily joined, or attempted to join the late Enemy of the United States, and who shall hereafter return to this District, such person will be treated with the severity due to his Crimes and infamous defection

Resolved, that if any such person, has already returned, since the first day of January last, and shall not remove before the 10th day of June next, he shall be treated in like manner as those who shall presume to return hereafter.

Resolved, That it be, and it is hereby earnestly recommended to the Militia Officers of this District in their several beats, to make diligent Enquiery after such persons as are above described; and if any are found, to give notice to the Inhabitants of this District, that effectual measures be taken for their expulsion.

Resolved that we will hold in Contempt every inhabitant of this District, who shall countenance, comfort, aid or abet, any person who has voluntarily joined the Enemy or attempted so to do.

By order of the meeting

Signed, Sam[l] Bacon Clerk

15/

Sir

Niagara 17th July 1783

I have the honor herewith to transmit to your Excellency Copies of two Letters from Major Depuyster, which letters will inform you with the proceedings of the Major, respecting the Commissarion of Congress to the Indian Nations — On the Evening of the 13th these Commissioners arrived here, where they were treated with every kind of Civility and freedom, excepting that of Communicating their Instructions to the Six Nations, that being a matter beyond my reach without first having your Excellency's Orders — Indeed the nature of these Instructions was such, as in my humble opinion rendered them improper to be Communicated to the Six Nations, while we remain in the possession of the Upper Posts, except your Excellency should order the contrary —— Mr Douglas appears to be a shrewd sensible man, but he has Conducted himself while here with propriety, Yet I found it would be impossible to detain him, and his Companion here, to wait for your Excellency's Instructions, or the arrival of Sir John Johnson, as either of these Events were uncertain without having Opportunities of frequent intercourse with the Indians, as Mr Douglas speaks several different dialects of these Indian Nations, and notwithstanding all my attention Captain Brant had a Conversation with them, but it was of his seeking, and not of theirs, I therefore found it necessary to let them go, after detaining them six days, and sent a Batteau with a Serjeant & Seven men of the Kings 34th to conduct them to Oswego, Sober good men they seemed & perfectly contented with their reception here — I also inclose for your Excellencys Information a Copy of Mr Douglas's Instructions, and also the Copy of a Resolve of Congress upon which those Instructions are founded, and request that I may be favored with your Commands to direct me how I am to act. I had some conversation with Mr Douglas, and he candidly confessed that part of his Instructions had much better been omitted, I had almost told him they were inadmissible, but I thought it was better to be moderate.

Mr Douglas and his Companion, Captain Mc Kelly left this on the 16th at one O'Clock, at twelve I received a Letter from him and at one I sent him an Answer, Copy of his Letter with my

answer

answer. I have the honor, to transmit to your Excellency. And I proposed to these Commissioners to go to Canada, I am convinced they would have accepted of the offer, but I did not think it was proper or necessary at this time to give your Excellency that trouble as they had no authority for that purpose.

Upon the whole I have endeavored to Act in this business in such a manner as I thought the best for His Majesty's Service and I am not without hopes that both My and Deputy's Conduct and injunctions will meet with your Excellency's approbation.

I have the Honor to be &c

(Signed) Allan Maclean

By
The United States in Congress assembled
May 1st 1783

Resolved.

That the Secretary at War take the most effectual measures to inform the several Indian Nations on the Frontiers of the United States, that preliminary Articles of Peace have been agreed on, and Hostilities have ceased with Great Britain and to communicate to them that the Forts within the United States and in possession of the British Troops, will speedily be evacuated intimating also that the United States are disposed to enter into Friendly treaty with the different Tribes, and to inform the hostile Indian Nations, that unless they immediately cease all hostilities against the Citizens of these States, and accept of these friendly professions of peace, Congress will take the most decided measures to compel them thereto.

Ordered That the Secretary at War transmit the proceedings of Congress herein, with copies of President Dickinson's Speech to Indians Letters to the Commander in Chief and to the Commissioners for Indian Affairs in the Northern Department.

(Signed) Chas Thomson Secy

War Office of Philadelphia May 2d 1783

To the Commissioners for Britannic Majesty's Troops at Niagara &c

Congress have directed me to take measures to inform the several Indian Nations on the Frontiers of the United States that preliminary Articles of peace have been agreed on, and that Hostilities have ceased with Great Britain — and to announce

the

the pacific disposition of the United States to the several Tribes

Mr Bull, who will have the honor of delivering this letter is charged with this interesting and agreable message.

Should he experience any difficulty in executing his Commission I beg leave to recommend him to you for your assistance.

I have the Honor to be &c :

(Signed) B Lincoln

Philadelphia May 3. 1783

To the Offr Commanding the Garrison of his Brittannic Majesty at Detroit

Sir

Congress have directed me to take measures to inform the several Indian Nations on the Frontiers of the United States that preliminary Articles of Peace have been agreed on, and that Hostilities have ceased with Great Britain, and to announce the pacific disposition of the United States to the several Tribes —

Mr Douglas, who will have the honor of delivering this Letter, is charged with this interesting and agreable message Should he experience any difficulty in executing his Commission I beg leave to recommend him to You, for your Assistance —

I have the Honor to be &c

(Signed) B Lincoln

Copy of a letter from Major Depeyster to Brigadier General Maclean.

Dated Detroit 17th July 1783

Sir

I am favored with your Letters of the 6th & 9th Instant. You will I hope before this reaches you have dispatched three Messengers from General Lincoln round by Oswego, or Lake Champlain, it will now be very dangerous for them to travel from hence to Fort Pitt.

Runners are just come in from the Indian Country, with Accounts that the Kentucke People, had attacked and carried off a number of Horses belonging to the Indians Hunters, who were Hunting on their own Grounds on this side the Ohio. The Indians not willing to loose their property, pursued the Virginians & attacked them and killed Fourteen, and had one of their Indians mortally wounded.

I have made every possible inquiery, and can assure You, that the Kentuckers were the sole Agressors, and I have mentioned the particulars that they may be candidly related to prevent misrepresentations and the bad Consequences

that

that might insue by the lawless proceedings of the people of Kentuck the Indians being disposed to peace and Friendly Treaty with the People on the Frontiers of the United States." (Signed) A S Depeyster

In Council Detroit 30th July 1783

Present

Lieut Colonel A S Depeyster Commandant
M[r] Baby Alex[r] Mc Kee Esq[r] Deputy Agents
The Officers of the Garrison
The several Interpreters

Copies for inclosure to Lord Northcliffe N°14

A Band of Shawanese

Lieut Colonel Depeyster addressed the Shawanese in several Strings

Children

I am very sorry to be obliged to assemble you here upon a disagreable Subject. having been informed that notwithstanding the Strictest injunctions, and your promises not to attack the Americans, that some of your people have spilt blood. I desire to know from you every circumstance, that I may give you my Sentiments thereon.

The Snake, a Shawanese then said

Father

A Party of the Chi. li. ca. thi. ki, Village went out to hunt, four of them being here present declare "That while hunting, on this side of the Ohio, about Thirty Miles from their Village their Horses were taken away from their Camp at Night. that the Chief finding that their Horses were taken away resolved, with his men to follow their Tracks, after recollecting that one Hundred came lately to them from the Virginians with proposals of amity, and agreed that Hostilities should cease while both parties remained unmolested, the Chief said to his Young men, those who have taken our Horses are no Virginians for after the agreement made between us, we could not believe that they were of that people. We therefore continued to follow their Tracks to the Ohio and overtook them, We discovered two men who were painted and in possession of our Horses, upon which we fired, killed one, and called to the other to Surrender, which he refused to do, and at the same time levelled his Piece upon one of the Indians who received his Shot thro his Heart, the Indians seeing the same Time killed them. The Chief then ordered his Young men who had Crossed the Rocky River with him to look out and endeavour to meet with the Shawanese who had

came

came among them with a Flag, as he wished to tell him what had
passed and that his people have not kept their Word. but when we came
to the place where he was to pass, we found he had already passed it, on
which we Concluded to Report the circumstances to our Father, as soon
as we had finished our Hunt, This affair happened about the 10th June

Lieut Colonel Desjeyster then said

Children.

I am extremely sorry that this affair has
happened and much more so that you did not take the two men
Prisoners and bring them on to this place, if you had, it would
have told greatly in favor of your Nation, and would not only
shew that you are attentive to the orders lately sent to you from their
Father, but were able to set an Example to your Enemies. I own
its very hard to have your property taken away, but the times are very
Critical the World wants to be at peace and its time they should be
so, but I fear this affair will bring on bad Consequences, if so, it
must be an affair of your own, as your Father can take no part
in it, let me recommend to you in case a similar affair should
happen "That you spill no more Blood, for depend upon it, where
ever Blood is shed, there will be a Retaliation_ when I first heard
about this matter I communicated it to the General at Niagara
who writes me word that the Six Nations are Extremely sorry for it,
and you may be assured that you will soon hear from them upon
the Subject.

Children

"These Strings I beg may be conveyed thro' the
Indian Country (delivers several Strings) that I may recommend
of them not to put themselves in the way of such accidents
and in Case any Enemy come to molest them, as they can be but
a few Savages, they had much better take them alive and
bring them in, for when matters are quite settled, you may
depend upon their being furnished sweetly by their own Friends.
This request is upon your accounts, for as your Father has
already made Peace with the Americans, I speak to you
again, he is bound in Honor to keep Peace and can afford you
no assistance if you foolishly bring mischief upon yourselves.

Children

As you have mind of Mr Sherlock, I shall communicate
this affair to the General, and the Six Nations, in hopes that they

will

will take such Steps as to prevent the bad Consequences.

Copy from the Book of Minutes
(Signed) P. Schieffelin Secty

Extract of a Letter from Brigadier General Maclean to His Excellency Genl Haldimand Dated Niagara 31st July 1783

Sir

Extract for information Lord North No 14

"I have the honor to enclose herewith for your Excellencys perusal the Copy of a letter I received lately from Major Depeyster, by which your Excellency will see that the Virginians on the Frontiers, will bring on an Indian War if they can. I have consulted with Brigadier General Sir John Johnson and Colonel Butler, and they are of opinion, as well as myself, that it will be very proper to give the earliest Intelligence possible of the true State of this Affair to the Commanding Officer of the United States in the Northern District, to prevent the bad Consequences that may arise from the misrepresentations of the Kentucky people to Congress. Sir John is so well persuaded that the Kentuckies will not hesitate to misrepresent this matter, in order to bring on an Indian War, that he has wrote a few Lines to General Schuyler, stating the matter as they really are, and as I lately had a very polite Letter from Colonel Willet, it gave me an Opportunity of sending him a few Lines, and sending him an Extract from Major Depeysters Letter to me in order to prevent any attack being made on the Indian Country at so improper a Time, and I shall be happy if my Conduct meets with your Excellency's approbation, Copy of my Letter to Colonel Willet I have the honor to transmit for your approbation".

I am &c &c Signed Alexr Maclean

Copy of a letter from Brigadier General Maclean to Colonel Willet Dated Niagara 31st July 1783

Sir

Lord North's No 14

I have this day received a Letter from Lieut Colonel Depeyster the Commanding Officer at Detroit, dated the 17th July 1783, an Extract from which Letter, I take the liberty of enclosing herewith, requesting that you will be pleased to transmit it, and this Letter to His Excellency General Washington — Trifles may sometimes be the means of doing great mischief, which may be prevented by applying proper remedies in time. On the present occasion the Virginians at Kentuck have been the Aggressors, without any provocation on the part of the Indians,

who

who are well disposed to cultivate peace and friendly intercourse with the People on the Frontiers of the United States, provided they are not molested in their property or persons, by a number of People who come to settle at a Considerable distance from the Frontiers of the United States that they may not be subjected to the Controul of any Legal Law or Government whatever - These lawless people would be glad to bring on an Indian War, to be an excuse for their depredations, and therefore will not scruple to misrepresent this last affair, and endeavor by that means to induce the United States to take up their Quarrel.

On that Account I have thought it my duty, to State this matter fairly and Candidly, that the unlawful and improper Conduct of the Kentucky People, may not be the means of involving innocent People in misery and distress.

I have the honor to be &c Signed Alex Mackee

Extract of a Letter from Lieut Colo. Depeyster to Brigadier General Mackay dated Detroit the 1st August 1783

Extract
from Lieut Col. Depeyster
No. 14

Sir

"Every possible enquiry has been made for the Persons
"mentioned in Mr Douglas's list, but to no effect — so that they must have
"been taken by the Cherokees before the order for restraining the Indians
"reached them. I have also spoken with the Indians who were personally concerned in the late affair when their horses were stolen by
"the Virginians. The enclosed is a Copy of what passed upon the
"occasion, to which they then made no reply, but have since declared
"that they thought it hard their proceedings should be found fault
"with as they knew no reason why they should oppose their Lives en-
"deavoring to take armed Robbers & Incendiaries. One of the men they
"nevertheless summoned to surrender, and he answered them by
"pulling a Trigger — The Interpreters with the principal Chiefs
"of the Shawanese, are gone off with Belts and strings to endeavor
"to find the hunting Parties on the Banks of the Ohio and
"communicate your Sentiments to them." Signed J. A. Depeyster

Niagara 1st August 1783

Sir

Extract from Lieut Col. Depeyster's Letter No. 15

This morning to my great surprise three Batteaux arrived from Schenectady loaded with Rum, to trade at the Upper Posts. they brought passes from General Schuyler, and Governor Clinton, and a Certificate from the present Mayor of Albany. Your Excellency

may

may easily believe, that allowing them to proceed on that business without your orders and approbation was what I could not permit on any Account — Indeed as Major Ross was at Oswego, when they passed, I am at a loss to guess, why he did not stop them there, and report them to your Excellency, without permitting them to proceed to this place, here they now are, and here they shall remain, till I have the honor of receiving your Commands about them; I have ordered their Liquors to be put into a place of security in the mean time. I certainly would have ordered them to return back immediately but I was afraid it might be looked upon as an Act of Violence, in me; as Major Ross allowed them to come here; But I explained to them how improper it was in them, to come to Trade here so soon, even before the Definitive Treaty of Peace was Signed, or before the Commercial Treaty had been ratified and concluded, that what was still stronger that no British Merchant could come here, without having first obtained a regular Permission from your Excellency under certain Conditions and restrictions, that such being the Case, the only, and the greatest favor I could grant them, was to let them remain here, and then I was doubtful how far I might be justified by your Excellency, in permitting them to remain here, but that I would risk it, in order to convince them, that our Commands good nature, and forbearance, was greatly superior to their own, as they were daily forming resolves, threatening with Death any one of our People that should come amongst them — They told me that they really did not come to Trade, had only brought a few Liquors with them, that their Chief Errand was, to try and recover Sums due to them at Detroit since the Year 1775 — I however see by their Passes, that they were to proceed to a Machina, in case they did not sell their Goods at some intermediate Post, between this place and Machina I am therefore to request that your Excellency will have the goodness to let me know by the earliest Opportunity, what I am to do in this business, that I may Act accordingly, and this I request the more anxiously, as I understand that a number of other Boats were preparing at Schenectedy to come here, In the mean time I have taken it upon me to direct the Commanding Officer at Oswego to stop all such Boats till I should be honored with your Excellency's Commands about them, or till he should receive Orders from Head Quarters on that Subject. I am &c (Signed) Allan Maclean

P.S. Our Indian Friends look at these people, very crooked indeed, and I was glad Sir John was here at the time, five or six Indians half Drunk came up to Mr. Todd of Montreal, and taking him for one of them told him in broken English "You Damned Yankee what brought You here" But luckily an Indian Officer was by who settled them matter quietly.

As Sir John sends a Canoe off to day, to go with a Message to the Oneida Village, I directed one of the principal men come here from Schenectady to write to his friends below, to stop all other Boats from coming here until this matter is properly settled and understood, which can only be done by applying to your Excellency for that purpose this intelligence I hope will have the desired Effect on these wrong headed insolent people.

August 2.nd 1783

Sir

This moment the Merchants brought me the Letter which I have the honor herewith to transmit to your Excellency. Acquainted them with my having taken effectual steps to prevent any more such people passing Oswego till I had the honor of receiving your Excellency's orders, and that I had also got these three people to write to the Magistrates of Albany not to permit any more boats or people to come up here, and with this answer they were well pleased, until they have your Excellency's determination.

I have the Honor to be Signed Allan Macdonell

Niagara 1.st August 1783

From the Mercantile people of the upper Posts to B.G. Maclean

Sir

We the mercantile People of this place in behalf of ourselves and all others in the upper Posts, beg leave respectfully to represent to you the Hardships we must be exposed to if Merchandize is at present allowed to be brought in to these Posts from the States of America.

Extract for Lord Hobarts letter N.o 13

You are well acquainted that there is now here and at the rest of the Upper Posts a very large Quantity of Merchandize, the whole of which has been imported from Great Britain, and on the Article of Rum a duty paid to Government of no less than nine pence Quebec Currency p.r Gallon.

While these Posts are occupied by British Garrisons we presume they cannot be considered as under the Jurisdiction

of

of America; and as no laws have yet been framed to regulate the Commercial Intercourse between the Province of Canada and the States of America, we conceive that the inhabitants of the latter cannot be intitled in this Situation to Trade therein. They are rather in our Opinion to be regarded as Smuglers who introduce Merchandize into the Country without paying the Legal Rates, to the prejudice and ruin of the fair Trader. And this Merchandize the introduced is probably the Growth and manufacture of Nations the Rivals of Great Britain, imported in foreign Bottoms. We need only mention this to shew how unreasonable it would be that Merchandize of this discription should be allowed to be sold by strangers in British Territories, and in competition with British Merchandize imported by British subjects.

We would further beg leave to observe that we do not know that any commercial Regulations between the two Countries have yet taken Place, whereby the Subjects of Great Britain are intitled to carry their Merchandize to any parts of America they may think proper, particularly without being Subject to Duties that the Americans themselves must Pay; and we therefore think that the Americans cannot be intitled to such partiality in Countries under Subjection to Great-Britain.

We understand that the Merchants of London have applied to Government that these Posts may not for some time be given up to the Americans, in order that an Opportunity may be afforded for Vending the Merchandize at present in the Country; and that their Correspondents may have time to bring their Affairs to a Conclusion without loss.— They have been encouraged to hope that their Application would be granted. But the end of it will be entirely defeated, if in the mean time the Americans are allowed an unrestrained Trade in this Country. For their being exempted from the Duties paid by the British Merchants will enable the Americans to undersell them; by which means they must carry away the whole of the Trade, and reap all the Advantages that can be derived from these Posts while Great-Britain pays the Expence of the Garisons.

We are induced to trouble you on this Subject by the Arrival of three Batteaux from Schenectady Yesterday, which no doubt will be quickly followed by many more unless some measures be fallen upon to prevent them— We submit entirely to your

Judgment

(26)

Judgment what is most proper to be done on this Occasion; being well persuaded of your kind attention to a matter that so immediately affects every Mercantile man in the upper Country, and is of very material Concern to the Commerce of the Province of Canada in general.

We are with much Respect &c.ª

(Signed) Hamilton & Cartwright
John Thompson
Sam.l Street & Co.
Douglass & Symonnington

Gov.r Haldimand.

Niagara 14 September 1783

Sir.

I had almost forgot to mention to your Excellency that the Indians in return for the Belt and Speech sent them by General Schuyler, sent by his own Indians a Belt & a Message assuring him they were well disposed to Peace and friendship with Congress, this they did with the Consent and Approbation of Colonel Butler and your Excellency may be Certain that the Six Nations will do nothing but by the advice of Colonel Butler, they are perfectly quiet but much disposed to be at Peace with the Americans and firm friends to us — so that there is not the smallest risk or Danger of their not being easy and Peaceable of this Butler desires me to assure your Excellency, but that he thought it right that they should send a Civil message to Schuyler and Exchange a Belt with him by the return of his own Indians.

I have the Honor to be &c.ª

Signed Allan Maclean

Gov.r Haldimand

Niagara 27th Sept.r 1783

Sir.

In my last Letter I had the honor to inform your Excellency that I intended to send the Rum belonging to the Seneca Lady Men to Oswego, and to direct Capt. Gumersal to assist them in Crossing the Oneida Lake. The day before they left

this

this place they Came to me imploring in the most Anxious manner they might be permitted to Store the Rum here that it was impossible for them with three men to get through Wood Creek, indeed they convince me fully that without they had Boats and men from the Garrison of Oswego to the Mohawk River, the carrying of it with them was impracticable, I then told them I would order Captain Gumersal to Store it at Oswego, they told me they had no sort of Objection, but beged to Mention that there were no Merchants Stores or Merchants at Oswego, and that the Rum would not by any means be so secure at Oswego, as at Niagara, that as they found a Merchant that would give them Store Room, at their own risk they intreated leave to permit the Rum to remain here till next Summer at their own risk. I then sent for Lieut Colonel Dundass & Major Hoyes of the 34th and in their presence they signed three Copies of the inclosed Certificate, One Copy they carried with them, and the third Copy I keep here, Upon which I agreed to their the Rum at their own Risk, Mr Street gave them Store, this I did as I really saw the impossibility of their being able to Carry it back, and had the Rum been lost in Wood Creek, they then in all Probability would have made a Noise but I am in hopes that the inclosed Certificate will put it out of their Power, I granted them also permission to Sell five Barrels of Rum to get as much pay what they owed here during their stay they sold it at five Shillings per Gallon which was Less than it cost them, but it was their own request, and I thought it would be Cruel to refuse them Subsistance, And I am not without hopes your Excellency will not disapprove of my having done so they left this the 15th And I am clear they nor any other of the same sort will again attempt Coming here till they have proper Authority for it.

Yesterday two Officers Wives of the Rangers with a Number of Children came here from Schenectady one of them the Wife of Captain Tinbrook, the other wife to Lieut Hanson and Niece to Colonel Butler. — Inclosed I have the honor to transmit to your Excellency a Letter I had from Captain Sumerall by which you will see what sort of Fellows are attempting to come to this Place with Passes from General Washington and Governor Clinton, Mr Cassety has not only abused the indulgence given him but he has insulted Lieut

and

(28)

and a private man of Sir Johns to Commit a Robbery and Desert with him, I likewise therewith transmit to Your Excellency a Letter from Lieut. Colonel De Leyster together with some other Papers which Mr. M.Kee, and the Information of John Little, it's a most amazing Circumstances, that the Americans should persist in their Cruelty and Barbarity to our People, in direct Violation of the Treaty of Peace and yet have the impudence to come amongst us, without fear or dread, I declare to God if any of them comes I shall confine them till I can send them back. But I am of opinion they will not attempt Coming to this place again untill next spring — The 50 Indians of the Six Nations that went to Confer with the Western Indians at Sandusky are come back well pleased, they have made a League Offensive and defensive with the Southern and Western Nations and have agreed, except in their own defence if attacked; or their Country invaded; they are ready and willing to live at Peace and Friendship with the Americans, provided the frontier men makes no Incroachment on their Lands &c — The Deputies of the Six Nations have brought back with 36 of the Western and Southern Indians, in Order to be present in a general Council of the Chiefs of the Six Nations to Confirm the General League and every thing that has been done at Sandusky, they are to meet there on the 29th and when it's over, Your Excellency shall be informed of the Result, the Indians in general are heartily and seriously disposed to Peace & Tranquility.

I have the Honor to be &c.ª

(Signed) Allan Maclean

I had almost forgot to mention to your Excellency that Mrs. Hanson one of the two Ladies that came here two days ago with part of her family, as she says, wanted to go back again to Schenectady but this sort of promiscuous Communication I will not or cannot admit of, without your Excelleneys Approbation, especially as I find many of the Rangers would go to that Country at all Risks were they permitted so to do.

Lower Sandusky 5th September 1783

The several Nations being now all arrived, a Meeting was called among themselves of the principal Warriors at which a large belt sent two years ago by a Deputation from the Six Nations to the Southward in order to Unite the Northern and Southern Indians to prosecute the War, then carried on with Vigor, was now returned to the Six Nation Deputies present by the Shawanese and Cherokees accompanied by several speeches tending to assure the Six Nations of their willingness to join in defence of their Country which appeared to them at this time more necessary than ever as the Americans were encroaching upon different parts of it, therefore it required the serious Consideration of their elder Brethren the Six Nations and their Fathers the English who had hitherto wisely advised what had been of general good to their Interest. That it would be grievous to them to hear they had charged the System that appeared more than ever essential for their preservation and happiness as their situation was alarming if they could judge from the Words and Actions of the Americans who made no secret of their design upon their Country declaring pretensions to it by conquest and its being given up to them by the English who were thrown upon their backs — but we hope no Nation will tamely give it up, it is the gift of the Great God who made all things to us and we have already spilt the best of our blood in defending it, therefore in sure and certain hope of the Six Nations never loosing sight of what is incumbent upon us all to preserve we are ready to listen to them and to look towards them for assistance and advice.

inclosed in the foregoing letter

True Copy

(Signed) Jos. Chieffelin Sec.y

152 Folios, &c.

£? 4. 4.

Montreal 19th May 1783

Sir

I have received a letter from Lieutenant Colonel Butler of the 3d Instant, Acquainting me that they are entirely out of Rum at that Post, and that the Indians murmer greatly About it — I shall therefore be glad to receive your Excellency's direction in what Manner they are to be supplied. —

Captain Brant, Who Arrived last Friday sett off this day by Water, with John the Mohawk Chief, as Deputies from their Nation with Assurances to your Excellency — their Steady firm, and unshaken Attachment and fidelity to Government, and their Spirited behaviour upon every Occasion His Excellency General Haldimand —

which they have been concerned, most certainly entitles them to every attention, indulgence and consideration that can be shewn to them, particularly, in their present unhappy situation—

I believe from the temper they now appear to be in, should Government think it an Object worthy attention, they might be prevailed on to remove to the West Side of Lake Ontario, or the St. Lawrence River, Joseph has hinted it to me, wishing at the same time that the Negroes might be settled somewhere near them, this may be an Object worthy consideration, and must be submitted to your Excellencys better judgement. —

I have the honor to be with great respect
Sir your Excellencys most Obedient and
most Humble Servant John Stuart

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

Copy

Head Quarters Luby 22d May 1783

Sir

116

Yesterday I Received a Dispatch from the Treasury, of Which an Extract is enclosed, and I must desire your particular Attention & the most Punctual execution of its Contents, & enable me, implicitly, & Compleatly with the Commands of the Lords Commissioners of His Majesty's Treasury. — In order to make the investigation, as desirable, more formal and Compleat, — as well as more satisfactory to Mr. Knox, I wish You & Lieut. Lieut. Houghton with Lieut. Col. Campbell &c. present when the Samples are taken from the Store, as Gentlemen being their presents may tendency Col: Claus & Capt. on that Occasion — I presume Paul the Samples have been already taken from Mr. Rose observing for the purpose specified in the Report of the Board held last October, but it will nevertheless, be necessary to compare them again; and the strictest Attention must be paid & the Certificates or Affidavits required, that no Flaw may be found in our proceedings; for which reason, as reference may be had to Law decisions, I should think Affidavits preferable to Certificates, where they can be had — Each sample must be Sealed in presence of Lieut. Colonel Campbell and Lieut. Houghton, with Colonel Campbell's Seal and so Numbered as to be easily referred to from the Report which will accompany them — The Enclosing Terms in which their Lordships pleasure is expressed, with so clearly point out to me the Necessity of being

Brigr. Genl. Sir John Johnson —

2

a particular in the Execution of this Commission, I trust it is unnecessary to recommend it further to You, especially as You will be informed by a Letter from me of this Date, that the Exigency of the Service requires your Speedy Departure for Niagara

I am &c

(Signed) Fred. Haldimand

Copy

1783

To Brigad. General Sir John

Johnson, this 22d. May —

[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
any Part of the Country [illegible] of Fort
George Mean while I shall remain [illegible]
waiting for Instructions from Head Qrs and up
Major Holland immediately to dispatch it
opportunities the Militia duly officered under a
View to select such of the Six Nations as will
prefer that Situation to the risk of being subjected
to the Power of the States by returning to their
former Habitations - I have frequently and
discussed the Matter at large with Lieut. Jarvis,
and it is with much Pleasure I find that he
readily comes into it - He will accompany
Major Holland to Batavia and from thence
proceed to Niagara; In Consequence of the
[illegible] Safety

Brig. Gen. Smyth Buffalo

Extracts from an

Albany News Paper

26th May 1783

N.o 6.

Entd Book C (N.o 3) fol. 14—

Sir Niagara 24th May 1780

I have the honor herewith to transmit to Your Excellency major Dopeystar last letter to me. In my answer to the Major, I have requested that he would immediatly forward the whole of the Michilimakina presents to Captain Robertson, without any diminution, and exclusive of the very good assort of Indian Presents at Michilimakina, I would also present Corcession. In the mean time he brought the a dest of such Articles as he was most in want of, as I expected more Indian Presents daily from Canada I should soon be able to assist him; what I have done in this affair will I hope meet with your Excellency's Approbation. with respect to the reduction which the major mentions, I have requested him to read over again the Extract I had the honor to send him from your Excellency orders, where it is expressly said, "That such as are "indispensibly Necessary to the Service were not to be reduced" and that he major Dopeystar, Only, could be the Proper Judge, what that Necessity, Ought to be—

Our Indians are very quiet, and behave very well, but very Anxious to hear from your Excellency & to see Sir John, a few Casks of Rum is much wanted and some Indian Goods for Detroit.

I have the Honor to be with great respect

Your Excellencys

Most Obedient and

most Humble Servant

General Haldimand Alan Maclean

(Copy)

125

Sir,

It was some time after my arrival here before all the Parties of Indians who were out returned, when I communicated to them in the Strongest terms my business amongst them at this time, and how much their own future welfare and happiness now depended in restraining their Warriors from committing further Hostilities against the Frontiers. Your favour of the 6th. instant enclosing the Proclamation of Peace, I have also received and made known to them, recommending a punctual observance thereof — Some difficulty at first arose with the Wakitamikee Tribe and Mingoes on not hearing from the Six Nations on this occasion, but an account is brought that some of them are arrived at Sandusky, and the former have joind the other Tribes in delivering me a Belt which accompanys this, to assure me of their compliance to what has been delivered them, but the Mingoes who have been always the leaders in mischief amongst those People, have allowed a Party to go to War, and another of the Straggling Cherokees — Their Chiefs however is desired to recal them — This Nation may occasion trouble here as they are now constantly passing and repassing in large Parties between this and the Southward by the Settlements of Virginia.

The Delawares merit approbation for their behaviour at this time, not only in restraining their People, but for their prudent and wise advice to other Nations, when they informed them that they had always been ready in time of War to seize the Hatchet, and that now they would shew themselves as ready to take hold of the words of Peace, which their Father the King had been pleased to send to them; advising all who studied

their

their own good to do the same — A Deputation of the Six Nations well disposed and properly authorized to speak to these Nations would certainly be of utility, as the sooner the Hatchet can be taken out of their hands with propriety, the better; and the disposition of the People of Kentucky known, whom the Indians seem under great apprehensions of — some of their Parties having been on this side of the Ohio not long ago — The Indians are still in great expectation of receiving their usual supplies, should they be disappointed they will be convinced in the opinion that they are to be cast off when their service is no longer required. I hope for the general good this may not be the case. — I shall wait some days longer here in order to transact any material business should it arrive from you.

(Signed) A McKee

Shawanese Town
May 24th 1783

Major De Peyster.

Copy of a Letter from
Alexand.r M.cKee Esq.r
to Major De Peyster. dated
at Shawanese Town 24.th
May 1783

Leeches 26th May 1780

Sir

I have it in command from His Excellency the Commander in Chief to send you Ten Puncheons of Rum which you are to safely keep and Issue no part there of except by his Order to you for that Purpose. I am

Sir

Your Most Obed.t &
most Humble Servant

(Signed) Nath.l Day C.G.

A True Copy
New Orleans
25th Oct.r 1780

Copy

Quebec 26th May 1783



Sir

Since my last Letter to you I have conferred at large with Colonel Claus and Joseph Brant upon the expediency of settling such of the Six Nation Indians on the North side of Lake Ontario and River Niagara, as shall prefer that situation to the risk of returning to their former settlements now Subject to the Americans, and it gives me pleasure to find that Joseph so readily adopts the Plan. — Uncertain when I shall receive Instructions from Home upon this interesting Subject, and finding that the Indians are become very impatient & discontented with their present Situation, and, as I am informed by Joseph, they are in daily expectation of receiving Proposals from the United States, I have come to a Resolution to send off Major Holland, the Surveyor General, to Cataraqui to examine that Place and Country upwards, and if he should find them favorable to my View, he is to make Application at Carleton Island for Assistance to make a Beginning & go properly prepared, in every respect, for this Business, And altho' other Duty will oblige him to return before it can be accomplished, he will leave it in such a train as to have it effectually performed, and such a Report produced as will enable me to decide with certainty upon the Success of the Measure I wish that Joseph may, from Personal Knowledge & Observation,

1 Brig.r Gen.l Sir John Johnson.

have

have it in his Power to make a faithfull Report to the Indians of what is doing in this matter, and give his Opinion of what it is likely to turn out — I have desired him with a few Mohawks of his own chusing to accompany Major Holland to Catarraqui. And in the mean Time, agreably to my Letter of the 22d. Inst. I wish you without delay, to proceed to Niagara to quiet the Apprehensions of the Indians, by convincing them that it is not the Intention of Government to abandon them to the Resentment of the Americans — Joseph will deliver to You my Answer to the Speech He brought in behalf of the Six Nations, which you will please to communicate to them on your Arrival at Niagara, with whatever Speech may be proper from yourself upon the occasion — Upon Reconsideration of Joseph's Speech by Him & Col. Claus, they have made some Alterations which the Colonel will communicate to You —

Altho' the Indians resorting to Michilimackinac are of less Consequence, and out of the power of the Americans, you would do well to send up Mons.r Calvé (who is well known and of influence there) with a Speech to them importing, that altho' the King has found it necessary to put an end to so expensive & tedious a War, for the sake of his more Domestick Subjects, and to seperate them from the Americans — He still considers his faithfull Indian Allies as his Children, and will continue to promote their Happiness by his Protection, and permission of their usual Intercourse with Traders, with all other Benefits in his Power to afford them — It will also be necessary that you send a

a Speech of the same Nature to Detroit, to Quiet, as much as possible, the Apprehensions of the Indians in that Quarter — And you will remain at Niagara in expectation of further Instructions concerning the Indians in this present critical situation, which, from the Letters I wrote last Autumn, I have every reason to expect, and which I shall not lose a moment in communicating to You —

I am &c &c

Signed F. Haldimand

1783

Copy

To

Brig.r Gen.l Sir John Johnson

May 26th

Copy

London 26th May 1813

Sir

I am directed by the Prince Regent to inform you that His Royal Highness has been graciously pleased to appoint you to be a Companion of the Most Honorable Military Order of the Bath, in the room of Major General Sir Thomas Bradford, deceased.

I am also directed by His Royal Highness to desire that you will forthwith transmit to this Office a Memorial, stating your Services, and those of the Officers under your Command, which you may think entitled to the Notice of His Royal Highness, in the Distribution of the Honors of the Order, on the present occasion.

I am Sir
Your most obedient
humble Servant

Major Holland, Surveyor General

Quebec,
27 May, 1763.

Answer by Haldimand to the
Six Nations

III, 243-44

Answer of His Excellency General Prevost and Commander in Chief of His Majesty's Province of Lower Canada, Commander in Chief &c. &c. &c. to a Speech delivered by Captain Brant in Behalf of the Six Nation Indians and their allies

To Brant and the Six United Nations &c. &c.

I have received your Speech by Capt. Brant, In answer to which I have to acquaint you that I have not yet received information of the United States of Peace having taken place, nor any other account relative to it, but what has been communicated to you; a Printed Copy of which, I have given to Captain Brant

When the Peace is finally settled, and it will be communicated to me by His Majesty and I have every reason to expect that I shall then receive Ultimate Instructions respecting the Indian allies, more satisfactory to them than they apprehend from the Stipulations of any treaty having repeatedly recommended to

his loyalty, their Attachment and Services to him, which I shall again do, in the strongest terms, accompanied by your last Speech to me. In the mean time, I desire you will make Yourselves easy, and remain quiet until you hear from me, and You may depend that I shall not lose a Moment in communicating to You the Instructions that shall be sent to me concerning You, and that the more favorable they are, the sooner they will make me. —

I have directed your Friend and Superintendent Brigadier General Sir John Johnson to make you a visit, that he may personally explain to You the Situation of our affairs so far as they have reached my Knowledge, and that he may assure You of my sincere regards.

I am &c

Quebec 27th. May 1780.

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE ARCHIVES CANADA

1783
27 May

Answer by Frederick Haldimand to the Six Nations. PUBLIC ARCHIVES OF CANADA, OTTAWA, MANUSCRIPTS DIVISION, CLAUS PAPERS, MG 19, SERIES F1, VOL. 3, 243-244.

Answer by His Excellencey General Haldimand General and Governor in Chief of the Province of Quebec, Commander in Chief of His Majestys forces &c &c &c to a Speech delivered by Captain Brant in Behalf of the Six Nation Indians and their Allies

Brethern the Six United Nations &c &c

I have received you Speech by Capt. Brant. In answer to which I have to acquaint you that I have not yet received intimation of the Definitive Treaty of Peace having taken Palce, nor any other account relative to it, but what has been communicated to You; a Printed Copy of which, I have given to Captain Brant

When the Peace is finally settled, there is no doubt it will be communicated to me by the King and I have every reason to expect that I shall then receive ultimate Instructions respecting His Indian Allies, more satisfactory to them than they apprehend from the Preliminary treaty having repeatedly recommended to His Majesty their Attachment and Services to him, which I shall again do, in the strongest terms, accompanied by your late Speech to me. In the meantime, I desire you will make Yourselves easy, and remain quiet untill you hear from me, and You may depend that I shall not lose a Moment in communicating to You the Instructions that shall be sent to me concerning You, and that the more favorable they are, the happyer they will make me.

I have directed your Friend and Superintendent Brigadier General Sir John Johnson to make you a visit, that He may personally explain to You the Situation of our affairs as far as they have reached my Knowledge, and that he may assure You of my sincere regards

Fred Haldimand

Quebec 27 May 1783

1783

From
Lieut. Col. Butler to
the 19. May Nu. 28.

Copy/

Quebec 27th May 1783

590

Sir

In consideration of the early and steady attachment of Your Sister Mrs. Mary Grant, and of the Zealous Services Manifested by Her and Her Family to the King's Government I have thought fit to grant unto Her a Pension of one Hundred Pounds Currency a Year, Which, as far as it Depends upon me, Shall be Continued to Her — The said Pension to be Paid Quarterly by Brigad. General Sir John Johnson at the rate of one Hundred Dollars per Quarter, to Commence from the Date of Brigad. General Sir John Johnson appointment as Superintendant General & Inspector General of Indian affairs the 31st. Oct: 1782

I am &c

(Signed) F. H.

Captain Grant

Cr[illegible] 1783

To Capt. Joseph Brown
of the 27th Regt

Cited fo: 73.

Niagara August 14th 1780

Sir

I could but think myself very remiss in duty if not
also wanting in respect, after the Honor you have been
in the disappointment to the discipline of the Corps of Rangers &c.
that I think is in every correspondent with my duty to give to your E.
particular information from me. The part of the Corps, as early as from
one knowledge I could be able to distinguish and draw a due and just conclu
their general term and disposition towards a real military discipline hi
conducted; and to communicate to you the general tendency of their present and futu
views in which if I have assumed more than was necessary, or to your Excellency's wish, I
have most humbly with the utmost submission, to beg your Excellency will pardon an
error arising from perhaps a too anxious disposition in me to be conformable regarding a mili
tary point, for which, in that case, I must stand corrected. —— Jamestown, Jan
ary to have it to say, that I have found from the general condition and disposition
the Corps, that they have not only ever been backward in duty since the death of Captain
Butler, but still are not only void of, but in general reluctant to, the pursuit and
practice of regular military discipline the becoming, due attentions to which the
Officers in general have scarcely the most distant Idea of; their manner, their Educa
tion, disposition, want of practical knowledge, and the line of life of most of them, are in
surmountable obstacles in the way to effect the necessary requisite of an established Corps
during the course of the time upon the service they have been in charge. I believe they have
been ingenuine behaved, orderly and obedient to their duty, and the discerning of whatever his
Majesty may be graciously pleased to favour or reward them with, but the disposition here before
me to your Excellency during the time of their services, will give a more precise and more
distinct conclusion upon their merit and deserts than any thing in my power to say here.
But I must observe to your Excellency that two thirds of the Corps are at
present nine Companies compiled together — worthy of high name and by no means
within the customary requisite to effect in every respect good Soldiers and might should
they be raised to a more compleat number, or six Companies at 50 men &c &c
might answer every purpose that could be wished for to effect the service of their
Country regarding our connection with the Indians. But in that case, Officers
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fully reaching the interior Detail, Appointment and Oeconomy of the Corps from the
scarcity of the experience of the Officers the former bad Establishment excepted which
I have always conducted with Prudence and Vigour as far as possible and
left the Corps in that respect upon a better military Footing than which I fear
never be available here or permanent without Officers capable to comprehend and conduct
the matters in a manner very different from what has been done. I therefore the Corps
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men to have to return home to be immediately dispersed. Captain Butler with the
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distinct conclusion upon their merit and deserts than any thing in my power to say here.
But I must observe to your Excellency that two thirds of the Corps are at
present nine Companies compiled together — worthy of high name and by no means
within the customary requisite to effect in every respect good Soldiers and might should
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Copy/

Quebec 27th May 1783

124

Sir

In consideration of the early and uniform fidelity, attachment and Zealous Services rendered to the King's Government by Mrs. Mary Brant and her Family. I have thought fit to settle upon her a Yearly Pension of One Hundred Pounds Currency, which You are hereby authorized and directed to pay Her Quarterly, & Commencing from the Date of Your respective Appointments as Superintendent General & Inspector General of Indian Affairs by Public Orders &c.

I am &c

(Signed) F. H.

Brigad. General Sir John Johnson

Copy/ 1783

To Brig. General du Portail

Johnson, of the 27th. May

by Major Polhemus

Copy

Quebec 29th May 1783

126

Sir

His Excellency the Commander in Chief having gone into the Country early this Morning I have the honor to acquaint you, by His Orders that He has received your Letters of the 26th Instant, in answer to his, transmitting the Extract of a Letter from the Treasury relating to the Samples of Indian Presents, to which, His Excellency has no doubt every attention will be paid.

I am further, Sir, directed to acquaint you that, in addition to what His Excellency stated to you in his two last Letters upon the Subject of your going to Niagara, He Yesterday received Letters from Brig. Gen.l Maclean, which so strongly evince the necessity of that Measure, that He cannot be answerable for the Consequences of delaying it, the Indians being much irritated by the Conditions of Peace which have subjected them to the American States, and very desirous to see You. As this might reasonably have been expected, His Excellency thinks He has been remiss in not sending you to Niagara upon the first Intimation of the Provisional Articles, to have checqued discontents in their Infancy, which the first Impression has occasioned, and which may perhaps have been heightened by Persons whom your Presence would have awed. His Excellency particularly charged me to acquaint you that He feels most sensibly your situation by the Accommodation made with America,

Brig.r Gen.l Sir John Johnson &c.

and

and that he will be happy to learn it is not likely to turn out so prejudicial to your Interest as the first Appearances indicated — That you may rely upon his sending off an Express to You immediately upon the Arrival of His Dispatches, should they contain any matter the least interesting to You, or with whatever Dispatches may arrive for you, but He cannot justify, merely on Expectation of that Event, or a Circumstance of so much less Consequence, as the arrival of Accounts or Bills from the Upper Country, risking your Absence from the principal seat of your Duty at so critical a Period.

His Excellency desired I would signify to You his great expectations from Joseph's cordial manner of receiving His proposal for the Establishment of the Six Nations particularly of the Mohawks, on the North Side of Lake Ontario, and the pains he has promised to take in guiding the Minds of the Indians — His Excellency is much attached to Him and his Family, and the Proofs He has given Him of his Friendship seemed to be very satisfactory to Him. By the next Post, I hope I shall have the Honor to transmit a Copy of the Report of the Board to You, as I think it is in a Room of which the General has the Key, if so it has been preserved by Accident, concluding that you or Mr. Goddard had a Copy. — I have the honor to be &c.

Signed R Mathews

1783

Copy

To

Brig. Genl. Sir John Johnson

May 29th

Copt. of Mr Dayes letter

129

Sir,

Shawanese Country May 29th 1763

I am to acknowledge the receipt of your Letter by James Sherlock who arrived here with a Flag to negotiate an Exchange of Prisoners with the Indians, the Sentiments which have excited this step is entirely very commendable And I am, as I shall ever be, happy in promoting Humanity. At a Talk Stating the Indians have agreed to refrain from all further acts of Hostility, as well as to the terms of Exchange proposed as soon as they can be assembled (and I shall leave an Officer to see it fulfilled) None of the Prisoners mentioned in your Letter are amongst these Indians. I am informed they are all at Detroit and no doubt will be sent Home first opportunity.

I am Sir

Your most Obedient Servt

Wm Eyre Deputy Agent Indn Affairs

Major Walls

Copy of a Letter to Majr Wells
Commandt of Fort Nelson
at the Falls of Ohio

May 29th 1789

Shawanese Town May 29th 1783

Dear Sir.

I did myself the favour of writing you by Robert Surphlet who left this the 26th and in the Evening of the same day arrived a Flag from the Falls of the Ohio with a Letter addressed to me, and a Speech to the Indians Copies of which is herewith enclosed. as they are from the Officer who commands that Post proposing an exchange of Prisoners with the Indians I take the earliest opportunity of informing you thereof. that if you have any direction to send on the Subject it may arrive in time. They have had a Meeting yesterday upon it and have agreed to accept the terms as soon as the Hurons and

Major DePeyster,

Detroit

Delawares can be assembled here. Messengers from the Six Nations having spoke to them at the same time have also agreed to refrain from all farther acts of Hostility

I am with respect Dr. Sir.

your most Obedient &
very Humble Servant

[Sign'd] A. McKee

P.S. The Belt that Simphet should have carried goes by this opportunity.

Copy of a letter from
Alex.r Lee Esq.r to
Lieut. Governor DePeyster
Commanding Detroit
&c. &c. &c. dated
Shawanese Town
May 29.th 1783.
No 4.

(Copy)

Detroit the 1st. June 1783.

Sir,

I shall take the earliest opportunity to comply with yours recommendation of sending the remainder of the Goods directed for Captain Robertson — The inclosed is a Sketch of what will be necessary to enable us to take a decent leave of the Indians at this Post, and which I flatter myself you will have forwarded as soon as in your power — Arms Excepted, we did not receive more than will pay off the debts contracted with the Merchants during the course of the Winter.

(Signed) A. S. De Peyster

Brigad. Genl. Maclean.